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ABSTRACT

This national survey examines the family characteristics and relationships that contribute to a teen's substance abuse risk. It provides insights that can help parents develop in their children the will and skills to resist the lure of cigarettes, alcohol, and drugs. One thousand boys and 1,000 girls age 12-17, and 1,000 parents (536 mothers and 464 fathers) were surveyed. The two most striking conclusions found were: many dads are AWOL in the battle against substance abuse and this greatly increases the risk that their children will smoke, drink, and use illegal drugs; and Parent Power (parental influence) has tremendous untapped potential to help children resist substance abuse. Drug use in schools was also examined. Some positive results were found. The percentages of teens citing drugs as their biggest problem, teens reporting that the drug situation in school is getting worse, and teens who have never had a serious conversation with their parents about the risk of using illegal drugs have decreased. The percentages of teens who do not expect to use drugs in the future and teens who attend a drug-free school have increased. A copy of the survey with data frequencies for each question is provided within the appendix entitled "The Survey Methodology." (MKA)

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Back to School 1999--

National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse V: Teens and Their Parents

Conducted by The Luntz Research Companies and QEV Analytics

August 1999

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Accompanying Statement

By Joseph A. Califano, Jr.

For the past five years, CASA has been engaged in an unprecedented undertaking to survey attitudes of teens and those who most influence them—parents, teachers, school principals. This is part of our wide-ranging work to identify factors that increase or diminish the likelihood that teens will use nicotine, alcohol or illegal drugs so that we can develop the most effective means of helping teens. Others surveys, such as the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse and Monitoring the Future, seek to measure the extent of substance abuse in the population.

CASA's past surveys and work by others have consistently found that the family is fundamental to keeping children away from tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs. The 1999 CASA National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse V: Teens and Their Parents is a unique first attempt to gain valuable insights into how different types of families affect teen substance abuse risk. Systematically assessing the impact on teen substance abuse of different family relationships is an enormously complex task and we see this as a work in progress. We believe this 1999 survey is on the cutting edge of examining the family characteristics and relationships that contribute to a teen's substance abuse risk. It provides important insights that can help parents develop in their children the will and skills to resist the lure of cigarettes, alcohol and drugs.

This year we surveyed 1,000 boys and 1,000 girls age 12-17, and 1,000 parents -- 536 mothers and 464 fathers (including 555 from households where teens were surveyed).

The two most striking conclusions are these:

- Many dads are AWOL in the battle against substance abuse and this greatly increases the risk that their children will smoke, drink and use illegal drugs;
- Parent Power has tremendous untapped potential to help our children resist substance abuse.

AWOL DADS

A child living in a two-parent family, whose relationship with the father is fair or poor, is 68% likelier to smoke, drink and use drugs than teens living in an average two-parent household. A child living in a household headed by a single mother is at 30% higher risk compared to such teens.

To appreciate the extent to which dads are AWOL, look at how consistently teens rate moms more favorably than dads:

- Seventy-one percent of teens report having an excellent or very good relationship with mom; only 58% have such a relationship with dad.
- More than twice as many teens say it's easier to talk to mom than dad about drugs (57% vs. 26%).

- Twice as many teens who never used marijuana credit mom with their decision (29% compared to 13% who credit dad).

- While 45% of teens have discussed the dangers of drugs with both parents, more teens had such discussions with mom alone (15%) than with dad alone (4%);

- Teens are three times more likely to rely solely on mom when they have to make important decisions (27% vs. 9%)

- Forty-five percent say mom is more demanding in terms of grades, homework and personal behavior, 39 percent say dad is more demanding.

Underscoring the importance of an engaged father in a two-parent family, the CASA survey found that a child in a two-parent family with a poor or fair relationship with the father is at more than 60% higher risk of substance abuse than a child growing up in a home headed by a single mother who has an excellent relationship with that mother. About 35% of single mother households surveyed fit this description.

This should be a wakeup call for dads across America. Every father should look in the mirror and ask: "How often do I eat meals with my children? Take them to religious services? Help with their homework? Attend their games and extracurricular activities? Join mom in monitoring my teen's conduct, praising and disciplining them?

The safest teens are those living in two-parent homes where they have a positive relationship with both parents; go to both parents equally when they have important decisions to make, have discussed illegal drugs with both parents, and report that both their mother and father are equally demanding of the teen in terms of grades, homework and personal behavior.

PARENT POWER

Parent Power is key to a teen's risk of substance abuse. CASA's survey indicates that parents have a significant opportunity to influence their child's substance use: 42% of teens who never used marijuana credit their parents with their decision.

Yet too many parents seem resigned to an inevitability that their child will try drugs in the future: 45% say they believe their child will try an illegal drug in the future. This parental resignation often reflects their own drug-using behavior: among parents who used marijuana in their youth, 58% say they expect their teen to use an illegal drug in the future; of parents who never used pot, 29% expect their teen to try an illegal drug.

This is a time when Parent Power can be particularly potent. Where both mom and dad are actively involved in their teen's life, they have enormous power to instill in their child the characteristics that will keep their child from smoking, drinking and using illegal drugs. This kind of involvement is ideal when both parents live with the teen, but it is equally important for parents living away from the child. While we are by no means out of the tunnel of substance abuse, there are lights in the tunnel that give parents a chance to lead our children out.

LIGHTS IN THE TUNNEL

As with the recently released National Household Survey, there are some positive signs about teen drug use. Among the lights in the tunnel in the 1999 CASA survey:

- Twenty-three percent of teens cite drugs as their biggest problem, down from 28% in 1998 and 35% in 1997.
- Sixty percent of teens say they don't expect to use a drug in the future compared to 51% in 1998.
- Forty-four percent of teens say they attend a drug-free school compared to 31% in 1998.
- Forty percent say the drug situation in school is getting worse compared to 55% in 1998.
- Thirty-six percent said their parents had never had a serious discussion with them about the risks of using illegal drugs, down from 43% last year.

The rise in parental conversations with teens about drugs likely reflects the work of the Partnership For A Drug Free America and the Clinton Administration's anti-drug media campaign, which has been based in part on CASA research and earlier CASA surveys. While we have heard a lot about the importance of parents talking to their children about the dangers of illegal drugs, teens must feel they learned a lot about the risks of illegal drugs, and even more important, must view their parents as influential. Thus the effectiveness of any such discussions depend on the quality of the relationship with the parents and the seeds must be sown well before the teen years.

Though there are some lights, we are still in the tunnel. Some 14 million teens age 12 to 17 (60%) are at moderate or high risk of substance abuse, meaning they have friends who use marijuana, friends who drink regularly, have a classmate or friend who used acid, cocaine or heroin, can buy marijuana quickly and expect to use an illegal drug in the future.

DRUGS IN SCHOOL

As in past years, CASA's survey found that second to the family in influencing the teen is school environment. The risk of substance abuse for a student who attends a school in which illegal drugs are kept, used or sold is twice the risk of a student in a drug ree school. That so many teens attend schools which are not drug free (53%) is a significant impediment to anti-substance abuse efforts. Seventy-five percent of teens attending Catholic and other religious schools report that their schools are drug-free compared to 40% of teens attending public schools. The numbers of students interviewed attending non-religious private schools were too small to permit a reliable estimate.

Teens attending schools where drugs are kept, used or sold are three times likelier to have tried marijuana, two times likelier to have been offered marijuana, two times likelier to know a teenager who uses acid, cocaine or heroin and nearly three times likelier to smoke cigarettes. Teens in drug-free schools are two times likelier to report drug users and sellers at school to school authorities.

Drug-free schools reduce the proximity of the teen to illegal substances and help to reinforce the teen's resistance to substance abuse. CASA has committed itself to identify the ingredients of a drug free school and help find ways to make our schools drug-free. We plan to initiate a drug-free schools demonstration program within the next year or so.

What CASA has learned after five years of surveying teens and those who influence them most is that keeping our kids drug-free is most of all a job for families. Families--meaning both parents, not just moms--must be actively involved in their children's lives. They must nurture them and gain their trust at an early age.

Teens have the power to choose whether or not they will smoke, drink or use illegal drugs—and they will be forced to make conscious choices long before they graduate from high school. Parents too have choices. They must choose whether to invest themselves in the lives of their teens. They must decide whether they are prepared to do something to have their children in drug free schools. When parents feel as strongly about drug-infested schools as they do about asbestos-infested schools, we will have drug free schools in America. Parents with the financial resources send their children to private schools with instructions to those who run such schools to prepare their kids for the best colleges. When those parents also give headmasters the same kind of clear message that they want drugs out of those schools, these private schools will be drug free.

Above all, this year's survey makes it clear that parents have enormous power to help their kids grow up drug free. Parent power may be the greatest underutilized resource in our nation's battle to give our children the will and skills to say no to drugs, alcohol and cigarettes.

This survey is the fifth in a continuing series of annual surveys that CASA is undertaking in an attempt to increase our understanding of the causes and effects of substance abuse and to fulfill our mission to inform the American people of the impact of substance abuse on their lives. I want to express CASA's appreciation to Dr. Frank Luntz and Liz VanDersarl of the Luntz Research Companies which conducted the survey and Steve Wagner of QEV Analytics for his insightful work in analyzing the data. We are indebted to our survey advisory group members, Dr. Nicholas Zill of Westat, Inc., Dr. Richard R. Clayton of the University of Kentucky, Dr. Timothy Johnson of the Survey Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois, Chicago, and Dr. J. David Hawkins of the University of Washington.

Alyse Booth, CASA Vice President and Director of Communications was project manager for this effort. She has done a superb job in helping analyze the data and was ably assisted by Nancy Kearney, Communications Associate; Patrick Johnson, Ph.D., Deputy Director of CASA's Medical Division; Dr. Herbert Kleber, Executive Vice President and Medical Director; and others at CASA lent their counsel throughout. Steve Kilgore helped prepare the charts and Danna Crawford handled a host of administrative tasks.

Finally, let me also express our deep thanks to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which provided funding for this as it has for past surveys.

All these individuals and institutions helped, but CASA, Luntz Research Companies and QEV Analytics are responsible for the content and analysis of this report.

key findings

AWOL DADS: Many dads are AWOL in the battle to keep kids drug free and this increases their risk teen's risk of substance abuse. A child living in a two-parent family who has a fair or poor relationship with his or her father is at 68% higher risk of smoking, drinking or using drugs compared to all teens living in a two-parent household. A child living in a household headed by a single mother is at 30% higher risk compared to such teens. CASA's survey reveals that teens consistently rate moms higher than dads:

- 71% of teens report having an excellent or very good relationship with mom; only 58% have such a relationship with dad.
- More than twice as many teens say it's easier to talk to mom than dad about drugs (57% vs. 26%).
- Twice as many teens who never used marijuana credit mom as credit dad with their decision (29% vs. 13%).
- While 45% of teens have discussed drugs with both parents, almost four times as many teens had such discussions with mom alone (15%) than with dad alone (4%).
- Teens are three times more likely to rely solely on mom than solely on dad when they have important decisions to make (27% vs. 9%).
- 45% of teens say mom is more demanding in terms of grades, homework and personal behavior; 39% say dads are more demanding.

LIGHTS IN THE TUNNEL: Although we are still in the tunnel, we are seeing lights:

- Sixty percent this year say they don't expect to use a drug in the future compared to 51% last year.
- Twenty-three percent cite drugs as their biggest problem, down from 28% in 1998 and 355 in 1997.
- Forty-four percent of teens say they attend a drug-free school compared to 31% in 1998.
- Forty percent say the drug situation in school is getting worse compared to 55% in 1998.
- Thirty-six percent say their parents never had a serious discussion with them about the risk of using illegal drugs, down from 43% last year.

PARENTS FIGHT RESIGNATION: An astounding 45% of parents think their teen will use drugs in the future. Parents who tried marijuana themselves (58%) are much more likely to say their teen will try an illegal drug than parents who never "experimented" (29%).

key findings

- Twenty-five percent of parents say they have little influence over their teen's substance abuse.

- Seventy-percent of parents attribute responsibility for a teen using drugs to either peers (31%), the teen (30%), culture or society (18%) rather than to the parents (17%).

PARENTS HAVE MORE POWER THAN THEY THINK.

- Parents can have a significant opportunity to influence their child's substance use: more than two-thirds (73%) of parents say they *have* influence over their teen's decision whether or not to use drugs and 42% of teens who never used marijuana credit their parents with their decision.

- Family activities such as eating dinners together often and attending religious services together, as well as parental praise and knowing where their teens are after school and on weekends can reduce the risk of substance abuse.

- The safest teens are those living in two-parent homes where they have a positive relationship with both parents, go to both parents equally when they have important decisions to make, have had discussions about drugs with both parents and report their mother and father are "equally demanding of the teen in terms of grades, homework and personal behavior."

- An engaged single mom can compensate for an absent dad and lower the teen's substance abuse risk. A teen in a household with a fair or poor relationship with their dad is at 62% greater risk than a teen living with a single mom with an excellent relationship with that mom.

TALK THE TALK VS. WALK THE WALK: To be effective, discussions between parents and teens must be informative and the parent's opinions must be valued by the teen. Seeds of an effective discussion are sown years before--they depend on the quality of the teen's relationship with his or her parents. As in past years, the survey shows teens are most at risk at precisely the time they are least receptive to parental persuasion.

PARENTS TELL THE TRUTH: Among parents who admitted trying marijuana in their youth, 82% said they would tell their child if their child asked. 13% said they would not tell.

TEENS AT RISK: Fourteen million teens age 12 to 17 (60%) are at moderate or high risk of substance abuse - meaning they are exposed to substances through friends or at school. In addition, 42% percent of teens live in households, which boost the risk of substance abuse.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS: A teen who attends a school where illegal drugs are kept, used and sold is at twice the risk of substance abuse of a student attending a drug-free school. Seventy-five percent of students in Catholic and other religious schools say their school is drug free compared to 40% of public school students. Teens who attend a non-drug-free school are at twice the risk of substance abuse of a student attending a drug-free school and are nearly three times as likely to smoke cigarettes, three times likelier to have tried pot and two times likelier to know a teen who uses cocaine or heroin.

LIGHTS IN THE TUNNEL

- Last year, 51 percent of teens said they expected to never try an illegal drug in the future, this year 60 percent expect never to use drugs;

- Twenty-three percent of teens cite drugs as their biggest concern down from 29 percent in 1998, and 35 percent in 1997. Drugs remains the most frequently cited concern.

- Last year, 54 percent of teens knew a user of hard drugs; this year 48 percent do;*

- In 1998, 31 percent attended a drug-free school; this year, 44 percent do.

- Last year, 55 percent said the school drug problem was getting worse; this year, 40 percent said so.

- Last year, 43 percent of teens said their parents had never discussed the dangers of illegal drugs with them; this year, 36 percent said so.

* *not statistically significant decrease*

The overriding trend is clear: as other national surveys have shown for the past year, teen substance abuse appears to have leveled-off. This may be the result of the various organizations, including CASA, which have been beating the drum against substance abuse for the past few years and focusing particularly on the role of parents and schools. The major anti-drug youth advertising campaign launched by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America and the Office of National Drug Control Policy which has been based in part on CASA's research and earlier surveys has activated parents in dealing with their children's risk of using drugs. Coincident with efforts at the community level, the problem of teenage substance abuse has been raised.

Teenagers appear to be more conscious regarding their own substance use choice, more inclined to ask themselves, "does the kind of life I want to have include the use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs?" This is indicated by the increased number of teens who say they will never use illegal drugs in the future. It has long been a goal of CASA to encourage teens to view substance abuse as a choice they make regarding their own lives, while rejecting the fatalism of blaming substance use on "peer pressure."

If these indicators cause parents, schools, communities and government officials to move substance abuse issues to the back-burner again, this could lead to renewed indifference and then greater usage. Everyone including teens themselves must keep the pressure on.

How CASA Calculates Teen Substance Abuse Risk

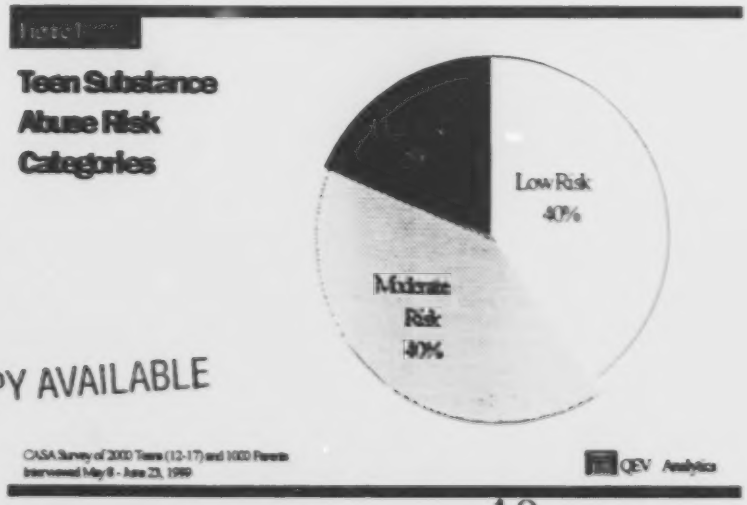
This year's survey, like previous surveys, is not intended to be an epidemiological study of substance abuse. For measurements of the actual incidence of drug and other substance usage, there are better sources. CASA's goal -- at it has been for the past five years -- has been to capture the attitudes of teens and those who influence them most regarding tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs.

We are seeking to find out what influences teens behavior towards or away from substances -- the characteristics of their friendships, school, and family life -- that most influence them.

These surveys were conducted by telephone with a randomly selected sample of teenagers (12-17) and of parents living with a teenager. We assume that this telephone survey — like any telephone survey — will under report the extent of illegal activities, such as the use of illegal drugs or the consumption of tobacco products and alcohol by underage teenagers, and over report the good stuff.

Consequently, the CASA strategy for assessing the substance abuse risk of a teenage respondent is to measure the prevalence of illegal drugs and these other substances in the teen's daily life: do their friends drink or use illegal drugs, do they have a friend who uses drugs other than marijuana, how long would it take them to buy marijuana? These questions are supplemented by others concerning the respondent's reported smoking, drinking, past use of marijuana and likelihood of future illegal drug use. All of these questions were combined by statistical procedure to yield the "substance abuse risk score" for each teen respondent. This, then, is our key dependent variable, the thing we seek to explain.

By collapsing the individual risk score, we found the 2000 teens surveyed fell into three categories, 40 percent of the nation's 12-17 years olds have a low risk of substance abuse, 40 percent are at moderate risk, and 20 percent at high risk. Substance abuse risk increases dramatically with the age of the teen: among 17 year-olds, only 13 percent are at low risk, while 38 percent are at high risk, and 49 percent at moderate risk. By comparison, of 12 year olds, 78 percent are at low risk of substance abuse (19% are at moderate risk, 3% at high risk).



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What the Risk Categories Really Mean

High Risk Teens — **20 Percent of 12-17 Year Olds**

Many Smoke (45% currently smoke)
Almost All Have Friends Who Drink Alcohol Regularly (91%)
Most Have Tried Alcohol (and 36% currently drink alcohol)
Most Get Drunk (59% at least once a month)
Their Friends Use Marijuana (79% have friends who use)
Most Know Someone Who Uses Hard Drugs (79%)
Over Half Could Buy Marijuana in Less Than One Hour (62%)
Two-Thirds Have Tried Marijuana (69%)
One-Third Say Future Drug Use "Likely" (37%)

Moderate Risk Teens — **40 Percent of 12-17 Year Olds**

Few Smokers (78% never had a cigarette)
Some Friends Drink Regularly (34% have no friends who drink, 43% fewer than half drink)
Few Have Tried Alcohol (19%)
Very Few Get Drunk (5%)
Many Have Marijuana-Using Friend (41%)
Over Half Know Someone Well Who Uses Hard Drugs (66%)
Many Could Buy Marijuana in a Few Hours or Less (42%)
Few Have Tried Marijuana (5%)
Less than Half Admit Any Possibility of Future Illegal Drug Use (44%)

Low Risk Teens — **40 Percent of 12-17 Year Olds**

Very Few Smokers (96% never tried a cigarette)
Few Friends who Drink Regularly (84% have no friends who regularly drink alcohol)
Almost All Have Not Tried Alcohol (97%)
None Get Drunk (99% never get drunk)
Very Few Have Friends Who Smoke Marijuana (2%)
Few Know User of Hard Drugs (15% do)
More Than Half Could Not Buy Marijuana (56%)
None Have Tried Marijuana
Majority Will Never Try Illegal Drugs (84%)

WHY DO SOME KIDS USE DRUGS (AND OTHERS DON'T)?

Parents, teachers, those of us who work in the field of substance abuse, anyone concerned about our nation's teenagers — we all crave the "silver bullet," that one thing we can do or say to a teenager to deter him or her from engaging in substance use. This survey — the most recent installment of an annual CASA study of the attitudes of teenagers and those who most influence their lives, begun in 1995 — does not offer a silver bullet, doubtless because there is no silver bullet to be had.

But this survey does suggest characteristics of the teenager's attitudes and circumstances which increase or diminish that risk. To the extent we can identify factors which contribute to a teen's substance abuse risk, we can develop effective interventions.

Our fundamental research question is, "how can one account for variations in respondent risk scores by reference to the teen's characteristics and the characteristics of the teen's family?" From the answer to that question we expect will emerge strategies for lowering the risk score for all teens.

In statistical terms, the degree to which we can explain teenagers' substance abuse risk score by reference to their other characteristics is impressive. In social science parlance, our model (using just 8 of the teen's characteristics) accounts for 58% of the variance in the risk score — a dramatic result.

Below are the eight most important characteristics of the teen and of the teen's family environment, in order of the strength of the relationship with substance abuse risk.
These characteristics go a long way toward predicting teen substance abuse risk — but should not be confused with the eight "indicators" used to calculate the risk score (those were measures of the prevalence of illegal drugs in the teen's daily life. The fact there are eight indicators and eight key characteristics is coincidental):

- Teen Attitudes Toward Substance Abuse
- Age of the Teen
- Respect for Authority of Parents
- Quality of Relationship with Parents
- Parental Involvement and Nurturing
- Religious Activism
- Effectiveness of Parent's Anti-Drug Message
- Father's Alcohol Consumption

These are not the only possible characteristics bearing on the teen's risk of substance abuse. But they are an excellent starting point for unraveling the mystery of which teens succumb to substance abuse — and which do not.

Next, we will review each of these eight predicative characteristics in turn.

Characteristics Which Predict Teens' Substance Abuse Risk Score

Characteristic	ETA*	BETA
Teen Opinion of Substance Abuse	.68	.50
Age of the Teenager	.47	.22
The Family Environment of the Teenager		
Respect for Parental Authority	.38	.15
Structure + Relationship with Parents	.31	.08
Parental Involvement and Nurturing	.38	.05
Religious Activism	.23	.03
Effectiveness of Parents' Discussions on Illegal Drugs	.31	.11
Father's Alcohol Consumption	.22	.09

*The ETA measures the strength of the relationship between the listed characteristics (the independent variables) and the substance abuse risk score (the dependent variable), on a scale of 0 (no relationship) to 1 (complete correlation). The larger the ETA, the stronger the relationship. ETA is a correlation coefficient appropriate for continuous dependent variables, such as the substance abuse risk score. Many of the teen characteristics are interrelated; for example, respect for parental authority decreases with age. BETA measures the isolated or unique relationship between a characteristic and the risk score, taking all of the other independent variables into account. The fact that the BETA of age is so much smaller than the ETA indicates that much of the apparent "age effect" is really attributable to other characteristics (like changing opinions of substance abuse).

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CHARACTERISTIC ONE: TEEN ATTITUDES TOWARD SUBSTANCE ABUSE

"Smoking Marijuana? It's No Big Deal." Can't you just hear those words rolling off the tongue of a "sophisticated," "open-minded" high school junior or senior?

The willingness to condemn marijuana smoking or the use of tobacco and alcohol, as "stupid" or "disgusting" is a significant indicator of a low substance abuse risk score.

Our index of teen attitudes toward substance abuse is based on responses to six questions.

First we asked teens what they thought of a person of the opposite sex a) smoking cigarettes [Teen Survey Question 10A & B]; b) drinking beer and other alcoholic beverages [Teen Survey Question 18A & 18B]; and, c) smoking marijuana [Teen Survey Question 36A & 36B]. The possible responses were that these practices are: "cool," "sexy," "no big deal," "stupid," or disgusting." Very few selected "cool" or "sexy" to describe either smoking, drinking, or using marijuana. The real division was between those who dismissed these practices as "stupid" or "disgusting" on the one hand and those who said they were "no big deal" on the other.

Another attitude which is strongly related to the substance abuse risk score is whether a teenager would report a student who was using or selling drugs at school to school officials. Barely half tell us they would report either a user or a seller (51% and 55%, respectively; Teen Survey Questions 31A & 31B). Willingness to intervene in this way decreases dramatically with age: 82 percent of 12 year olds would report a drug dealer to school officials, but only 37 percent of 17 year olds would. While females are slightly more likely than males to report drug users and sellers, the difference is not statistically significant.

We know that this attitude (the willingness to report a drug user or seller) is highly correlated with the teen substance abuse risk score. We know further that students who attend drug-free schools are two times more willing to turn in a drug user or seller to school officials than are students at non-drug free schools. We suspect it is possible to make teens safer from substance abuse by influencing their willingness to report drug activities to school officials. Where a school is drug-free, where the school community has an anti-drug use ethic, students would be more likely to report drug activity to school officials.

The two other questions in this arena of teens' attitudinal resistance to drugs concerned recognition of the "gateway"

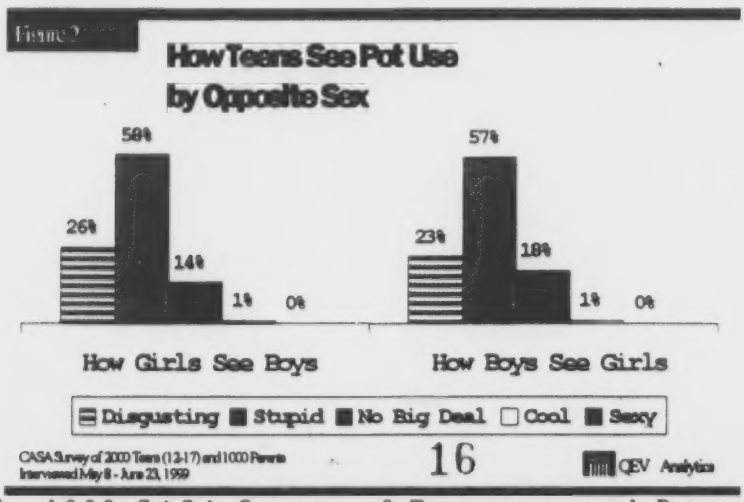
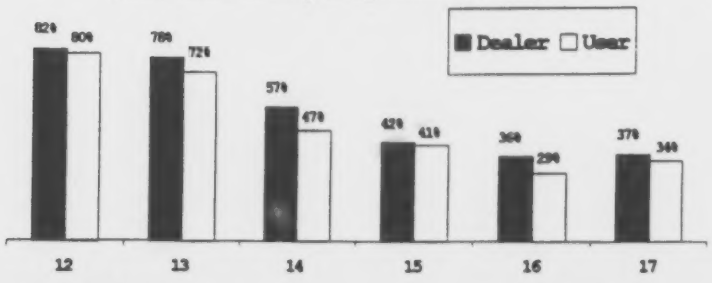


Figure 3

Older Teens Much Less Willing to Report Drug Seller, User

[%of teens who would report drug user/seller at school]



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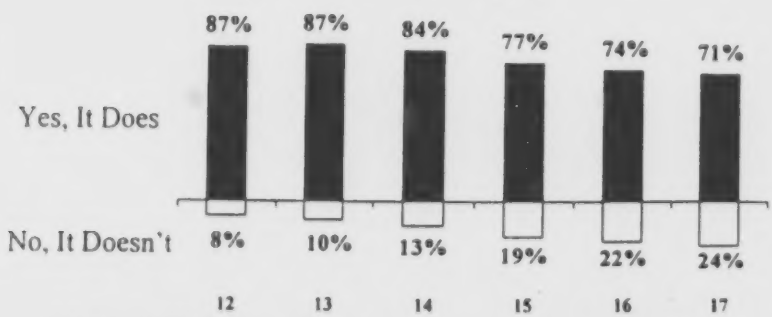
effect of smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol (that these will make more likely the use of marijuana, Teen Survey Question 32), and of using marijuana (that this will make more likely the use of "other illegal drugs like acid, cocaine or heroin," Teen Survey Question 33). Large majorities of teenagers accept both propositions: 73 percent say that smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol will make the use of marijuana more likely; 80 percent say that the use of marijuana will make the use of other drugs more likely.

Our index of respondent attitudes toward substance abuse proved to be the best predictor of the substance abuse risk score in this survey. Influencing a teen's attitude about substance abuse and supporting their reporting of a drug user or seller are key to keeping teens from using substances.

The index of respondent attitudes toward substance abuse is more important than age in determining substance abuse risk. We cannot do anything about a teen growing older, nor can we prevent him or her from graduating from middle school to high school, where the sharpest increase in substance abuse risk occurs. But we can do something about the teen's attitudes toward substance abuse. Parents particularly have the power to influence teens' attitudes, as we will see later.

Figure 4

Does Marijuana Use Lead to Harder Drugs?



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CHARACTERISTIC TWO: AGE OF TEEN

At first blush, age is — statistically speaking — the 800 pound gorilla in explaining the teens' risk of succumbing to smoking, drinking and using illegal drugs. The degree to which age influences substance abuse risk is frustrating, because age in inalterable. This is why the index of respondent attitudes toward substance abuse is important; it gives us a potential lever to affect a teen's behavior.

Age may be a surrogate for more fundamental dynamics — i.e. changes occurring in the environment and orientation of teens, such as: the increasing propensity to accept substance abuse as normal; the diminution in the quality of relationships with parents; the wider prevalence of illegal drugs in most high schools; the greater mobility which makes parental supervision more difficult and potentially exposes the teen to more negative influences. Many such dynamics and developmental issues coincide with age.

For the most part, the opportunity for parents to impact their teen's thinking about illegal drugs diminishes as the teen gets older. This is related to the quality of the relationship with parents: 34 percent of 12 year olds but just 14 percent of 17 year olds report having an excellent relationship with both parents.

CHARACTERISTICS THREE - SIX: TYPE OF FAMILY

Question: what one thing can parents do to keep their teens substance free? Answer: create a nurturing family environment in which parental authority is respected, in which parents and teens have an "excellent" relationship, in which parents are involved in the lives of their teens.

The characteristics of a teen's family environment are an important influence on the teen's risk of substance abuse. In this analysis, we examined five characteristics of family life, recorded from the point-of-view of the teen. Each individually has an impact on substance abuse risk; collectively the impact is substantial. These are the elements of the family environment we examined:

- Family Structure
- Quality of Relations with Parents
- Extent of Parental Involvement and Nurturing
- Evidence of Parental Trust and Authority
- Religious Activism

Family Structure

Family structure — meaning the presence or absence of both parents in the teen's household — is not a strong predictor of substance abuse risk. This is because the risk score of teens living with one parent (almost always the mother) is very dependent upon the quality of the relationship with that parent.

In general, when a teen lives with both parents, his or her substance abuse risk score is 7 percent lower than the average of all teens (0.93 versus 1.0). A teen living with a single mother has a risk score 21 percent higher than the average (1.21 versus 1.0). The absence of a father from the household is more injurious to sons — whose average risk score is 1.29 in this situation — than to daughters (1.15). But when a teen lives with a single mother (or a mother and a step father) and this teen has an excellent relationship with the mother, their risk score is 4 percent below the average for all teens, at 0.96. Teens living with two parents who have an "excellent" relationship with neither parent have a higher risk score (1.14). This means the impact of family structure on substance abuse risk is diminished by the quality of the teen's relationship with his or her parent or parents. Teens in two parent households are generally safer than teens living with one parent, but a single mother can compensate for the absence of the father, in regard to substance abuse risk, by having an excellent relationship with the teen. Of course, we know that single mothers face many obstacles that two-parent families do not have to deal with. According to our survey, 35% of teens living with a single mother report an excellent relationship with that mom.

In our sample, 74 percent of teenagers report they reside in a household which includes both parents. Twenty percent (20%) of households consist of a mother but not a father (4% have a mother and a step father); 3 percent have a father but not a mother. Two percent of our teenagers reside in a household with neither parent present (Teen Survey Question 51). These figures are based on the teens' characterization of the adults living in their home; step parents may in some cases be referred to as mother and father.

A review of the March 1999 Current Population Survey of the U.S. Census Bureau finds that 65% of teens, 12-17, live with both parents, 24% live with just their mother, 5 percent live with just their father, and 4 percent with neither parent — comparable to the achieved survey sample.

Relationship with Parents

While family structure is modestly related to the teenager's substance abuse risk score, whether the teen perceives himself or herself to have an excellent relationship with at least one parent is important. The question: "Would you describe your relationship with your [mother/father] as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor" (Teen Survey Questions 59 & 60). "Good" in this application may be a pejorative: teens with a "good" relationship with either or both parents have a substance abuse risk score 25 percent higher than the national average; teens with a less than "good" relationship (fair or poor) with either or both parents have a substance abuse risk score 55 percent above the national average.

Meanwhile teens with an excellent relationship with either parent — 45 percent of 12-17 year olds — have risk scores 25 percent lower than the average teen. Teens with an excellent relationship with both parents — 23 percent of 12-17 year olds — have risk scores 40 percent lower than the average teen. The bottom line here: from the standpoint of reducing the risk of substance abuse, having an excellent relationship with at least one parent is important. This, as we will see, creates an opportunity for parental influence.

Figure 5

Teens Have "Excellent" Relationship with Parents

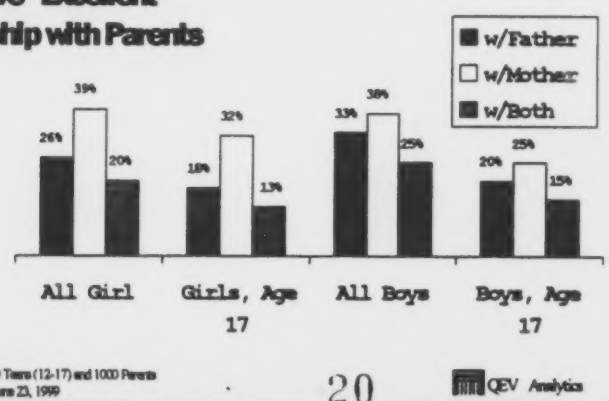

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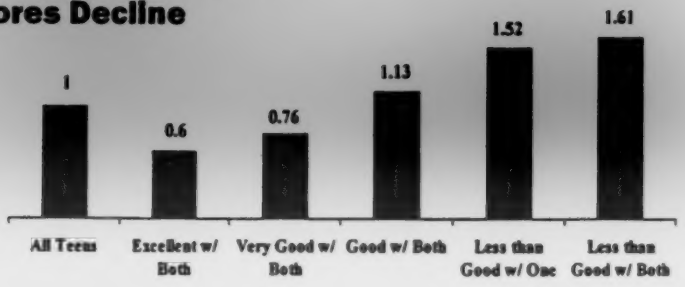
Figure 6

When Relations with Parents Improve, Risk Scores Decline



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Extent of Parental Involvement and Nurturing

The extent of parental involvement and nurturing is indicated by four questions: the frequency of parental praise (from the teen's point-of-view, Teen Question 54), frequency of parental assistance with homework (Teen Question 56), whom the teen consults when faced with an important decision (namely, their parents, peers, or other adults, Teen Question 57), frequency of having dinner together as a family (Teen Question 65). These questions were aggregated into a composite involvement/nurturing index, which was compared with the teen substance abuse risk score. Teens from families with positive involvement/nurturing scores (constituting 48% of the sample) had an average risk score one-third lower than teens from the least nurturing families (4 percent of the sample).

Teen Trustworthiness, Parental Authority

This dimension was based on two questions, "How often do you tell your parents where you're going to be after school or after work" (Teen Question 52) and, "How often do you tell your parents where you're really going on weekends" (Teen Question 53). These questions tell us the degree of honesty of the teenager and the degree to which parental authority is asserted and respected. The responses to these questions correlate highly with the teen substance abuse risk score; 50 percent of teens report they always tell their parents what they're doing after school and on weekends. Their average risk score is well below the average risk score for all teens (0.69 versus 1.0).

Religious Activism/Commitment

The extent of religious activism is also an excellent predictor of substance abuse risk, but it requires two measures to adequately assess the characteristic. These are: "How important is religion in your personal life?" (Teen Question 63), and "How often in a typical month do you attend church or religious services (Teen Question 64)."

We found 53 percent of teens attend religious services once a week or more frequently, and 49 percent consider religion to be important to their lives. A substantial plurality of 40 percent meet both of these conditions, and these teens have an average risk score 24 percent lower than the average for all teens (0.76 versus 1.0).

In most cases, the religious activism of the teen reflects the values of the parents.

A Family Typology of Substance Abuse Risk

We know that these five characteristics of a teen's family environment have an impact on the teen's risk of substance abuse. But in what sort of combinations do these characteristics occur in families throughout the nation? To answer this question, we combined the five key family characteristics to yield this typology of the most common American family types. This typology is highly related to the risk score of the teen residing in the household.

Type 1: Thriving Two-Parent Households (43 of all Teenagers)

- All Two-Parent Household
- 56% have "Excellent" Relationship with Mother
- 50% have "Excellent" Relationship with Father
- Highest Degree of "Involvement and Nurturing"
  - on average, these families have 5 dinners together per week
- Respect for Parental Authority
  - 75% "always" tell their parent where they are really going on weekends
- Attend Religious Services 5 Times in a Typical Month
- 7% have tried Marijuana
- Average Risk Score: 0.66

  ⇒ Skews slightly young (26% 16 & 17 year olds, versus 33% of the national sample)

Type 2: Activist Single Moms (14% of all Teenagers)

- Absent Fathers (92%)
- 44% have "Excellent" Relationship with Mother
- 19% have "Excellent" Relationship with Father
- High Degree of "Involvement and Nurturing"
  - on average, family has 5 dinners together per week
- Respect for Parental Authority
  - 73% "always" tell parent where they are really going on weekends
- Attend Religious Services 3 Times in Typical Month
- 12% have Tried Marijuana
- Average Risk Score: 0.85

  ⇒ Disproportionately Female (59%)

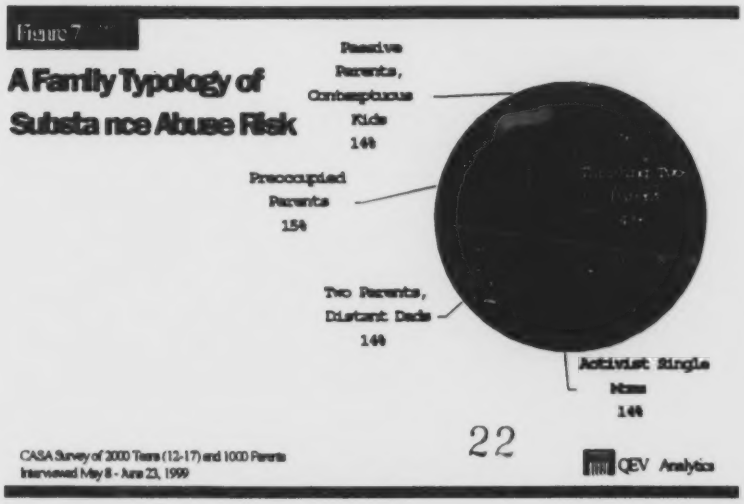
Figure 7
A Family Typology of Substance Abuse Risk
Passive Parents, Contemptuous Kids 14%
Preoccupied Parents 15%
Two Parents, Distant Dads 14%
Activist Single Moms 14%
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Type 3: Two Parents, Distant Dads (14% of all Teenagers)

- All Two-Parent Households
- 21% have "Excellent" Relationship with Mother
- 7% have "Excellent" Relationship with Father
- High Degree of "Involvement and Nurturing"
  - on average, this family has 5 dinners together per week
- General Respect for Parental Authority
  - 64% "always" tell parent where they are really going on weekends
- Infrequent Religious Attendance, Less than 2 Times in Typical Month (Lowest)
- 15% of Teens Have Tried Marijuana
- Average Risk Score: 0.99
  - ⇒ Disproportionately Female (54%)

Type 4: Preoccupied Parents (15% of all Teenagers)

- Mostly Two-Parent Households (65%)
- 14% have "Excellent" Relationship with Mother
- 13% have "Excellent" Relationship with Father
- Lowest Degree of "Involvement and Nurturing"
  - on average, this family has 2 dinners together per week
- General Respect for Parental Authority
  - 60% "always" tell parent where they are really going on weekends
- Attend Religious Services 3 Times in Typical Month
- 24% of Teens Have Tried Marijuana
- Highest Household Income, Parental Education Achievement
- Average Risk Score: 1.42 (second highest), 33% "most at-risk"
  - ⇒ Disproportionately Older Teens (49% 16 & 17 year olds)

Type 5: Passive Parents, Contemptuous Kids (14% of all Teenagers)

- Mostly Two-Parent Households (67%)
- 19% have "Excellent" Relationship with Mother
- 12% have "Excellent" Relationship with Father
- Low Degree of "Involvement and Nurturing"
  - on average, this family has 3 dinners together per week
- Very Low Respect for Parental Authority
  - 9% "always" tell parent where they are really going on weekends
- Attend Religious Services Less Than 3 Times in Typical Month
- 35% of Teens Have Tried Marijuana
- Average Risk Score: 1.9 (highest), 46% "most at-risk"
  - ⇒ Disproportionately Older Teens (52% 16 & 17 year olds)
  - ⇒ Disproportionately Male Teens (58%)

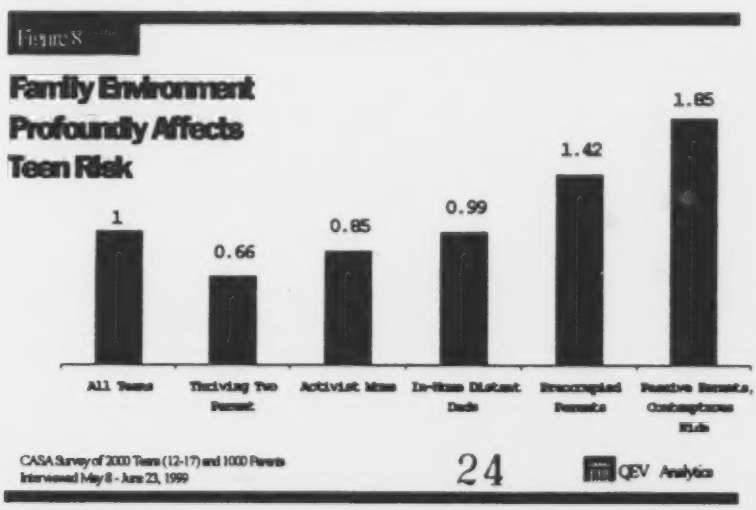
This typology highlights the influence family environment has on the likelihood of teenage substance abuse. The typology itself has a very high correlation (0.41 ETA) with the teen risk score, indicating that this composite measure of the family culture is the third best predictor of teen risk, after the teen's own expressed attitudes toward substance abuse and age. Households with the most observable things going wrong (Type 5: Passive Parents, Contemptuous Kids) contain teens with three times the risk score of teens in the safest homes.

The typology reveals that a majority of teens (58%) live in family environments which diminish substance abuse risk; namely, family types 1 (Thriving Two-Parent Households) and 2 (Activist Single Moms). In these households, resident teens have below average risk scores. But the typology also highlights the myriad of ways in which the family environment can increase risk.

The typology also cautions about making assumptions: the safest of all family types is a two-parent household ("Type 1: Thriving Two Parent Households"), but other types of two-parent households have teens with greater risk than those headed by a single-mother who is an activist parent (and has the other characteristics of the Type 2 family).

Of teenagers who do not reside with their father, 56 percent live in households with below average substance abuse risk. Of teens living with both parents, coincidentally 56 percent of them reside in households with below average substance abuse risk. However, teens living in the best single parent households have higher risk scores than teens living in the best two-parent households. An equal percentage of teens (44%) residing with both parents as with one parent are in households with characteristics that increase risk.

Across a number of questions in this survey, the safest teens are those who have a positive relationship with both parents: those teens who go to "both parents equally" when they have important decisions to make, who have had discussions about illegal drugs with both parents rather than just one, who report their mother and father are "equally demanding in terms of grades, homework, and personal behavior." Teens giving these responses are considerably safer than is the average teen. This effect is relevant when the father is present in the household, and indicates the importance of fathers participating in their teen's life. Even when fathers are physically absent, it is important for the father to have an excellent relationship with the teen.



CHARACTERISTIC SEVEN: TALKING THE TALK (PARENTAL COMMUNICATIONS ON SUBSTANCE USE)

One of the lights in the tunnel mentioned earlier was the response of more teens this year to the question: Have you ever had a serious discussion with your parents about the risks of illegal drugs (Teen Survey Question 44)? Nearly two-thirds of teenagers (63%) have had a serious discussion with their parents about the risks of using illegal drugs (Teen Survey Question 44). This is a substantial increase from 1998, when 53% had discussed illegal drugs with a parent. Last year, 43 percent of teens said their parents had never has such a discussion with them compared with 36 percent this year.

CASA has consistently pointed out the need for parent-teen communication about the dangers of illegal drugs. Over the past year, the youth anti-drug campaign of The Partnership for a Drug-Free America and the government's Office of National Drug Control Policy has drummed in the message of the importance of parents talking to their kids about drugs. We believe this has positively impacted families.

The survey results demonstrate that the quality of the conversation with the teen is what counts most. Teens who say they learned a lot about the risks of illegal drugs from the discussion with their parents (so say 35%, Teen Survey Question 46) and feel this discussion had a great deal of influence over their decision of whether to use illegal drugs (the opinion of 30%, Teen Survey Question 47) have lower risks scores than other teens. Parents do not necessarily have control over the latter: whether they influenced their teen's decision is most likely based on the quality of the teen's relationship with his or her parents. Is the teen receptive to the parents' anti-drug message? The seeds of an effective discussion on drugs may be sown many years before the discussion actually occurs.

How effective these anti-drug discussions are is strongly related to the age of the teenager: positive appraisals of the content and influence of anti-drug discussions are more characteristic of younger teens than of older. Consequently, younger teens are more receptive to the parent, and less likely to have already begun the use of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs. As CASA has reported in the past, teens are most likely to engage in substance abuse at precisely the time they are least likely to be listening to their parents.

Part of the value of a discussion about illegal drugs comes from the parents making known to the teen that they care whether or not the teen uses illegal substances. Most parents do care: 76 percent report they would be "extremely concerned" and another 20 percent "very concerned" were they to learn their teen was using marijuana (Parent Survey Question 6). Most teens are aware that their parents would be upset by their use of marijuana: fully 94 percent think their parents would be "very concerned" to discover their teen had used marijuana (Teen Survey Question 49). Only 6 percent of teens underestimate their parent's concern (comparing to the parent's responses), and 3 percent overestimate their parents concern.

The six percent of teens who think their parents would not be "very concerned" about their use of marijuana are at twice the risk of substance abuse as teens who think their parents would be "very concerned." There are few teens in that situation, and many more teens at risk: making known to your teen that you do care about substance abuse is an important first step, but only a first step.

Teens who have had a conversation with both parents are safer than those who have discussed drugs only with one parent.

Fathers are less likely than mothers to have had a discussion with their teens about illegal drugs: 4 percent of teens have had a discussion only with their father, 15 percent have had a discussion only with their mother, and 45 percent have had a discussion with both. More than two times the number of teens say it is easier for them to talk about illegal drugs with their mother (57%, Teen Survey Question 48) than their father (26%). This gap is narrower among boys (who cite their mother as the easier to talk to about drugs by 49% to 34%) than do girls (66% to 19%).

Parents express a greater degree of concern about their teen's use of marijuana (76% would be "extremely concerned") than either the teen's regular use of alcohol (64% "extremely concerned," Parent Survey Question 4) or tobacco (55% "extremely concerned," Parent Survey Question 5).

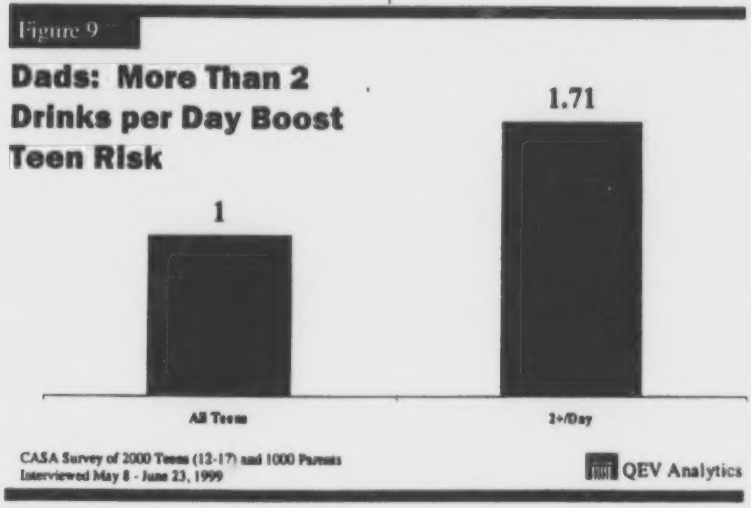
A vast majority of parents (90%) tell us that their teen's school teaches its students about the dangers of illegal drugs (Parent Survey Question 15). Parents don't believe this relieves them of the responsibility for covering the same topic with their teen. Only 6 percent (of those parents with a teen at a school which covers this material) say it is therefore less important for them to discuss the dangers of illegal drugs (Parent Survey Question 16).

CHARACTERISTIC EIGHT: FATHERS' DRINKING

The extent to which a father drinks alcohol is related to the teen's risk of substance abuse. While a mother's frequent drinking may also be related, so few mothers are reported by their teenage children to be frequent drinkers that the impact could not be measured.

Teens who report their fathers have more than two drinks per day (6 percent) have a risk score 71 percent higher than the average teen. Sixteen percent (16%) of teens report their dads have one drink per day; 10 percent say dad drinks weekly but less than once a day; 26 percent say dad drinks rarely and 36 percent say he never drinks (Teen Survey Questions 21 & 22). By comparison, 45 percent of teens report their mothers never drink; 30 percent say they drink rarely; 8 percent say they drink weekly; 18 percent say they drink daily (Teen Survey Questions 19 & 20).

Figure 9


Dads: More Than 2 Drinks per Day Boost Teen Risk
1
1.71
All Teens
2+/Day
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PARENT POWER

While parents clearly do not want their teen to use illegal drugs, 45 percent think it is likely their teen will do so (Parent Survey Question 56). Perhaps parents say this for good reason: teens whose parents think they will try drugs do in fact have high risk scores. The parent's response may indicate defeatism and become a self-fulfilling prophesy.

Part of parents' resignation comes from their own experiences. Parents who used marijuana themselves (62% of dads and 51% of moms) are much more likely (58%) to say their teen will try illegal drugs than parents who never "experimented" (29%) (Parent Survey Question 54).

Parents are decisively important to whether their teen will use or abuse cigarettes, alcohol, or illegal drugs, and there is a lot a parent can do to reduce their teen's risk of substance abuse. Parents are most frequently cited by teens who do not use marijuana as the reason they don't (42% of non-users) (Teen Survey Question 71b). There is a lot parents can do to reduce their teen's risk of substance abuse.

Care — in the Right Way

Parents must make it clear that they care about whether the teen uses tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs. Concern about the use of illegal drugs and other substances is necessary to reduce teen risk but it is not sufficient. Parents who would be most concerned to learn their teen was using marijuana have teens with lower substance abuse risk. But there are many at-risk teenagers with concerned parents.

Part of the problem may be that some concerned parents lack the determination to combat substance abuse. Only 5 percent of parents would be other than "extremely" or "very" concerned to learn their teen was using marijuana (Parent Survey Question 6). But 25 percent agree with the proposition that parents have little or no influence over their teen's substance abuse decisions (Parent Survey Question 9). Half (49%) attribute responsibility for a teen using drugs to either peers (31%) or to society at-large (18%), rather than to the child or the parents (Parent Survey Question 8). On the other hand, 22% say they *do* have influence. Eleven percent of parents would allow teens and their friends

PARENT POWER CHECKLIST

- ✓ Build excellent relationship with your teen
- ✓ Become active participants in your teen's life
- ✓ Regularly help with homework
- ✓ Encourage your teen to seek your help on important decisions
- ✓ Eat dinners frequently as a family
- ✓ Attend religious services regularly and make religion important to the life of your teen
- ✓ Praise your teen when merited
- ✓ Know what your teen is doing after school
- ✓ Know where your teen is on weekends

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to drink in their home to avoid drinking and driving, rather than draw a line against underage drinking (Parent Survey Question 21).

Parents Know the Score

Most parents have a good idea of what's going on in their teen's life with regard to substance abuse risk. Some of the best predictors of teen substance abuse risk were whether or not the parent has already detected a problem (based on households in which we interviewed both a parent and a teen). If a parent says their teen could readily buy marijuana (Parent Survey Question 24), does not approve of the teen's friends (Parent Survey Question 31), thinks the teen's friends are using marijuana (Parent Survey Question 32), and thinks the teen has probably tried illegal drugs (Parent Survey Question 34), these are all strong indications the teen is at high risk.

Parents have a different view of the main problem their teenagers confront (Parent Survey Question 1). When asked what is the bigger problem facing teens today, most cited a teenager's desire to fit-in and be popular (mentioned by 29% of parents), with mothers more likely than fathers to mention this as the most important problem facing their offspring (compare 33% of mothers and 25% of fathers). The second most frequently cited problem by parents is drugs (21%), an issue that was foremost on the minds of teenagers. Additionally, one-in-ten of the parents mentions violence and crime (8% mention crime and violence in school and 4% general crime and violence) and roughly as many cite academic issues — doing well in school or getting into college.

This survey was fielded weeks after the shootings at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. The fact that 18% of teenagers and 12% of parents mentioned violence in schools probably reflects proximity in time to that event, but the fact these responses were not more frequent suggests that the Colorado incident is seen as something of an aberration.

A comparison of what parents and teenagers identify as the most important problem facing teenagers suggest that parents tend to attribute their teenager's behavior, including smoking, drinking and the use of illegal drugs, to peer pressure more than the teens themselves. If that is the case, this survey suggests that parents are misreading their teens.

WHAT'S GOING ON AT SCHOOL

A large majority of our teens attend public school (86%, Teen Survey Question 3), seven percent attend Catholic schools, 4 percent other religious-affiliated schools, and 4 percent non-religious private schools. Enrollment in private schools declines with age and is highest among 12 and 13 year olds.

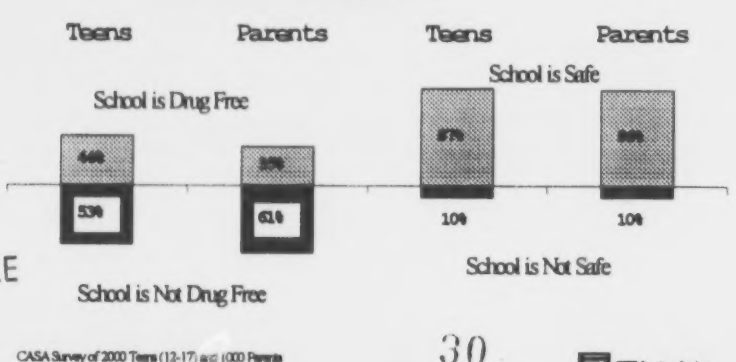
A majority of both parents and teenagers agree that their schools are not drug-free — an opinion voiced more frequently by parents than by teenagers. Among parents, 61 percent say that their teenager's school is not drug-free, compared with 53 percent of teenagers (Parent Survey Question 18 & Teen Survey Question 29). In 25 percent of households, the parent says the school is not drug-free while the teen says it is; in 13 percent of households the parent says the school is drug-free and the teen says it is not.

Generally, private schools are much more likely to be seen as drug-free than public schools. Seventy-five percent of students attending Catholic and other religious schools say their school is drug-free, whereas 40% of public school students describe their school as drug-free (the number in non-religious private schools was too small to permit a reliable estimate). As expected, middle schools are much more likely to be seen as drug-free than high schools, with a majority (58%) of 12, 13, and 14 year olds saying their school is drug-free; 30 percent of 15, 16, and 17 years olds concur.

Is the designation drug-free really meaningful? The answer from the data is yes, for the survey documents that there are very substantive and important differences between students at drug-free and non-drug-free schools.

- The risk of substance abuse for a student in a non-drug-free school is twice the risk for a student in a school that is drug-free.
- Students in drug-free schools are twice as likely as students in a non-drug-free schools to report drug users or sellers to school authorities. This is an important indicator of a teen's attitudinal resistance to substance abuse.

Figure 10 **Teens, Parents Agree: Schools Safe but Not Drug-Free**



CASA Survey of 2000 Teens (12-17) and 1000 Parents Interviewed May 8 - June 23, 1999

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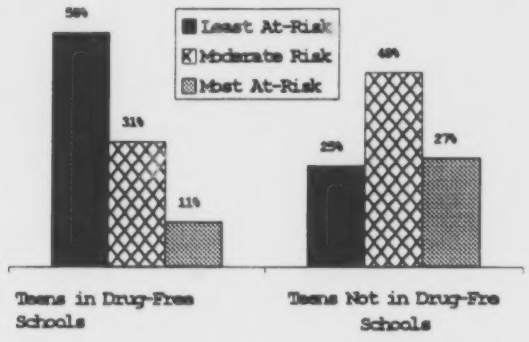
Figure 11

Drugs at School Increase Teen Substance Abuse Risk



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- The percent of students in non-drug-free schools having tried marijuana is three times the percent in drug-free schools.

- The percent of students in non-drug-free schools knowing a user of acid, cocaine, or heroin is twice the percent in drug-free schools.

- The percent of students in non-drug-free schools who get drunk monthly is more than twice the percent in drug-free schools.

- The percent of students in non-drug-free schools who smoke is nearly three times the percent in drug-free schools.

These data underscore the importance of securing a drug-free school environment for every student. In non-drug-free schools, a majority of students believe that conditions are "worsening" (40%) compared with 55 percent in 1998. This year 15 percent say it is the same and 36 percent say it is getting better. In 1998, 11 percent said it was the same and 29 percent said getting better.

Many more parents and teenagers agree that the teen's school is "a safe place" (so say 86% of parents and 87% of teens, Parent Survey Question 19 and Teen Survey Question 6). Private schools are given a nearly universal endorsement on safety (97% of private school students say their school is safe).

Can a school be safe which has drugs? Forty-four percent of teenagers and 50 percent of parents seem to think so — those are the percentages saying the teen's school is safe yet not drug-free. We question this conclusion: there is a high correlation between the presence of drugs in a school and the incidence of violence against teachers and students, weapons confiscated from students, and a general lack of discipline, according to previous CASA research.

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Appendix: The Survey Methodology

This statement was prepared by the Luntz Research Companies, which was responsible for the data collection.

This is the fifth year CASA has conducted surveys on American attitudes toward illegal drugs and other substance abuse. As in past years, the research project began with focus groups designed to explore attitudes and test survey questions. Six groups were held this year, two in Princeton, New Jersey (high school juniors and seniors) and four on Long Island (two middle school and two high school).

The survey of teenagers and parents utilized traditional random digit dialing techniques, in which a pool of telephone numbers was created representing all 48 continental states in proportion to their population, using extensive information concerning telephone number assignments across the country. The random generation of telephone numbers has the advantage of capturing unlisted as well as listed numbers.

The random digit telephone numbers were called, and then the household was qualified for participation in the survey by determining that a teen aged 12 to 17 lived in the household. The first interview in any household was conducted alternatively with a parent or a teen.

To ensure a more even representation of mothers and fathers, when seeking to interview parents, we asked first to speak to the father. Six calls rather than the traditional three were attempted with each phone number to elicit a greater degree of responses from single parent families. In addition, in order to accurately represent non-white households, we increased the sampling in area codes that U.S. census data indicate have a greater degree of non-white households, while still maintaining proper quotas on a state-by-state basis. Our success in reaching a statistically representative sample of non-white teenagers and parents eliminated the need to weight the results by ethnicity.

In total, 2000 teens and 1000 parents of teenagers were interviewed between May 8 and June 23 (including 555 interviews with teens and parents from the same household, continuing a research design pioneered by CASA in 1996). A total of 81,881 calls were made to complete the 3000 interviews.

The margin of sampling error for the teenager sample is ± 2.2% at a 95% confidence level. That is, were it possible to interview all teenagers in the country between the ages of 12 and 17, the results would vary by no more than ± 2.2% 19 times out of 20 from what was found in this survey. The margin of sampling error for the parent sample is ± 3.1%.

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF TEENAGERS, 12-17

Introduction: "Hello, my name is (_____) and I'm calling from the national public opinion research company. We are looking for teenagers between 12
and 17 years old to participate in a very important nationwide survey on the future of our youth. Is there a youth between the ages of 12 and 17 living at your home?"

[IF YES] May I speak to that person?
[IF NOT AVAILABLE] When would be a good time to call back?
[IF NO] Thank and terminate.

[INTRO FOR TEENAGE RESPONDENT]
Hello, my name is (_____) and I'm a college student interviewing teenagers across the country about current events and about what it's like to be a teenager in America today. This is not a sales call; I am not going to ask you to buy or do anything. I want you to know your answers are completely confidential — I just want to learn your opinions and some of your experiences on issues important to teenagers. This interview will take about 12 to 15 minutes, and there are no right or wrong answers to these questions. And at any point during this survey you can refuse to answer a question or stop taking the survey altogether.

TELEPHONE NUMBER
SOURCE CODE
1. ORIGINAL CALL
2. REDIAL OF PREVIOUS INTERVIEW

1. First, what is your age, please?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
17%	16%	18%	12
17%	18%	16%	13
17%	17%	16%	14
17%	16%	17%	15
17%	17%	17%	16
17%	17%	17%	17

2. Gender [BY OBSERVATION]

49%	MALE
51%	FEMALE

3. What kind of school do you attend: public, Catholic, other religiously affiliated or private but not religiously affiliated?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
86%	85%	86%	PUBLIC
7%	7%	6%	CATHOLIC
3%	2%	3%	OTHER RELIGIOUSLY-AFFILIATED
4%	4%	3%	PRIVATE, NOT RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF TEENAGERS, 12-17

4. In general, what are you ***most*** likely to do in the afternoon after school?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
19%	24%	14%	PLAY ON A SPORTS TEAM
19%	17%	21%	GO HOME/DO HOMEWORK
17%	18%	17%	HANG OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS
14%	14%	14%	GO HOME/WATCH TV
9%	9%	8%	GO HOME/DO SOMETHING ELSE
7%	6%	8%	GO TO A JOB
6%	4%	7%	PARTICIPATE IN A SCHOOL ACTIVITY
3%	2%	5%	GO HOME/TALK WITH FRIENDS ON THE PHONE
3%	3%	2%	GO HOME/SURF THE INTERNET OR PLAY ON COMPUTER
2%	2%	2%	PARTICIPATE IN OTHER ORGANIZED ACTIVITY
—	—	—	VOLUNTEER
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

5. What is the most important problem facing people your age—that is, the thing which concerns you the most?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
23%	22%	23%	DRUGS
18%	18%	17%	SOCIAL PRESSURES (POPULARITY AND "FITTING-IN")
13%	11%	14%	CRIME AND VIOLENCE IN SCHOOL
6%	7%	5%	DOING WELL IN SCHOOL
5%	5%	5%	OTHER CRIME AND VIOLENCE
3%	2%	4%	SEXUAL ISSUES
2%	1%	2%	GETTING INTO COLLEGE
1%	1%	0%	JOBS/ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
1%	1%	1%	GETTING ALONG WITH PARENTS/OTHER PROBLEMS AT HOME
1%	2%	1%	LACK OF MONEY
1%	1%	1%	THE GENERAL LACK OF QUALITY EDUCATION
1%	1%	2%	DECLINING MORAL STANDARDS/IMMORALITY
—	—	—	OTHER POVERTY RESPONSES
—	—	—	TELEVISION/MOVIES/POP CULTURE
—	—	—	LACK OF RELIGION /SPIRITUALITY
11%	12%	10%	OTHER
16%	17%	14%	DON'T KNOW/NR

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF TEENAGERS, 12-17

6. Generally speaking do you feel your school is a safe place to be or not a safe place?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
87%	90%	85%	SAFE
10%	8%	13%	NOT SAFE
3%	3%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

7. Lots of times I feel depressed.

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
7%	5%	8%	STRONGLY AGREE
19%	18%	20%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
26%	25%	27%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
49%	52%	45%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
—	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

8. I'm happy with my body image.

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
53%	58%	47%	STRONGLY AGREE
32%	28%	36%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
8%	7%	10%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
7%	7%	7%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
1%	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

9. If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
8%	6%	11%	LOSE WEIGHT
28%	27%	30%	APPEARANCE/ BETTER LOOKING
10%	13%	7%	SMARTER/DO BETTER IN SCHOOL/BETTER GRADES
5%	7%	3%	STRONGER/MORE ATHLETIC/BETTER ATHLETE
4%	3%	4%	COOLER/MORE POPULAR
2%	2%	1%	RICHER/MORE MONEY
1%	1%	1%	MORE POPULAR WITH OPPOSITE SEX
15%	14%	17%	OTHER
27%	27%	27%	DON'T KNOW/NR

Now I'm going to ask you some questions about smoking...

10a. **[ASK BOYS]** Smoking by a girl my age is....

MALE	
46%	STUPID
—	COOL
—	SEXY
32%	DISGUSTING
21%	NO BIG DEAL
1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

10b. **[ASK GIRLS]** Smoking by a guy my age is...

FEMALE	
42%	STUPID
—	COOL
1%	SEXY
40%	DISGUSTING
17%	NO BIG DEAL
1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

11. How frequently have you smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
90%	90%	91%	NOT AT ALL
4%	4%	4%	LESS THAN ONE CIGARETTE PER DAY
3%	3%	3%	ONE TO FIVE CIGARETTES PER DAY
2%	2%	2%	ABOUT HALF PACK PER DAY
1%	1%	1%	ONE PACK PER DAY
—	1%	—	1 AND HALF PACKS PER DAY
—	—	—	2 PACKS OR MORE PER DAY
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

12. If you ever smoked or smoke now, from whom did you get your first cigarette?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
72%	72%	73%	NEVER SMOKED (SKIP TO 15)
8%	3%	13%	A FEMALE FRIEND
10%	16%	3%	A MALE FRIEND
1%	1%	—	A BOYFRIEND
1%	—	2%	A GIRLFRIEND
1%	1%	2%	AN OLDER SISTER
1%	1%	1%	AN OLDER BROTHER
2%	2%	2%	AN ADULT RELATIVE
3%	3%	3%	OTHER
2%	2%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

13/14. What is the main reason that you smoke now or ever smoked? How about another reason? [RECORD FIRST AND SECOND RESPONSE]

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	FIRST RESPONSE
45%	48%	43%	TO FIT IN/BE ONE OF THE CROWD
8%	11%	6%	RELAX
14%	15%	14%	JUST BECAUSE I LIKE IT
3%	3%	3%	MAKES ME FEEL BETTER/HAPPIER
12%	11%	14%	PUSH THE ENVELOPE/RISKY/BREAK RULES
2%	0	3%	IMPRESS MEMBER OF OPPOSITE SEX
4%	4%	4%	CAN'T QUIT/ADDICTED
1%	0	1%	CONTROL MY WEIGHT
11%	9%	13%	DON'T KNOW/NR

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	SECOND RESPONSE
10%	10%	10%	TO FIT IN/BE ONE OF THE CROWD
10%	10%	11%	RELAX
6%	6%	5%	JUST BECAUSE I LIKE IT
2%	3%	1%	MAKES ME FEEL BETTER/HAPPIER
4%	5%	4%	PUSH THE ENVELOPE/RISKY/BREAK RULES
2%	2%	2%	IMPRESS MEMBER OF OPPOSITE SEX
4%	4%	4%	CAN'T QUIT/ADDICTED
1%	—	2%	CONTROL MY WEIGHT
61%	61%	62%	NO RESPONSE

15. Thinking now about your own close circle of friends, how many of your friends smoke at least one cigarette a day—none, less than half, more than half, or all of them

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
52%	49%	54%	NONE
32%	32%	31%	LESS THAN HALF
6%	7%	4%	HALF
8%	8%	8%	MORE THAN HALF
3%	3%	3%	ALL OF THEM
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

16. Do either of your parents currently smoke at least one cigarette a day? Do both parents?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
8%	8%	9%	YES, MOTHER
14%	14%	13%	YES, FATHER
10%	9%	11%	YES, BOTH
68%	68%	67%	NO, NEITHER
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

Now let's talk about drinking...

17. Thinking now about your own close circle of friends, how many of them currently drink beer or other alcoholic drinks pretty regularly, like most weekends—none, less than half, half, more than half, most or all of them?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
49%	47%	50%	NONE
28%	28%	28%	LESS THAN HALF
9%	9%	8%	HALF
7%	7%	6%	MORE THAN HALF
7%	8%	7%	MOST OR ALL OF THEM
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

18a. **[ASK GIRLS]** Drinking beer or other alcoholic beverages by a boy my age is ...

FEMALE	
50%	STUPID
1%	COOL
0	SEXY
18%	DISGUSTING
30%	NO BIG DEAL
1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

18b. **[ASK BOYS]** Drinking beer and other alcoholic beverages by a girl my age is ...

MALE	
48%	STUPID
1%	COOL
—	SEXY
15%	DISGUSTING
35%	NO BIG DEAL
1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

Data Frequencies [Continued]
Survey of Teenagers, 12-17

19/20. In a typical week, will your **mother** drink wine, beer, or another alcoholic beverage? **[IF YES]** In a typical day, will she have one, two, or more than two drinks? **[IF NO]** Does she ever drink?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
45%	43%	47%	NEVER DRINKS
30%	30%	30%	NO DRINKS
8%	9%	7%	TYPICAL WEEK WEEKLY DRINKER (<1/DAY)
14%	15%	13%	1 PER DAY
2%	3%	2%	2 PER DAY
2%	1%	2%	3+ PER DAY

21/22. In a typical week, will your **father** drink wine, beer, or another alcoholic beverage? **[IF YES]** In a typical day, will he have one, two, or more than two drinks? **[IF NO]** Does she ever drink?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
36%	33%	39%	NEVER DRINKS
26%	27%	25%	NO DRINKS
10%	11%	9%	TYPICAL WEEK WEEKLY DRINKER (<1/DAY)
16%	16%	15%	1 PER DAY
6%	7%	5%	2 PER DAY
6%	6%	6%	3+ PER DAY

23/24. In a typical week, will **you** drink wine, beer, or another alcoholic beverage? **[IF YES]** In a typical day, will you have one, two, or more than two drinks? **[IF NO]** Do you ever drink?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
76%	73%	78%	NEVER DRINKS
16%	17%	15%	NO DRINKS
55	5%	5%	TYPICAL WEEK WEEKLY DRINKER (<1/DAY)
2%	3%	2%	1 PER DAY
1%	1%	—	2 PER DAY
1%	1%	1%	3+ PER DAY

25. **[IF DRINKER]** What is the main reason that you drink? **[N=166]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
23%	22%	25%	TO FIT IN/BE ONE OF THE CROWD
12%	12%	12%	RELAX
36%	37%	34%	TO HAVE FUN
8%	8%	7%	MAKES ME FEEL BETTER/HAPPIER
4%	5%	2%	PUSH THE ENVELOPE/RISKY/BREAK RULES
1%	2%	—	IMPRESS MEMBER OF OPPOSITE SEX
17%	15%	19%	DON'T KNOW/NR

26. How many days in a typical month do you get drunk?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
75%	73%	78%	DON'T DRINK [NOT ASKED]
11%	12%	11%	0
6%	6%	5%	1
4%	4%	4%	2
1%	1%	1%	3
3%	4%	2%	4 OR MORE

27. How many times have you ever drunk so much alcohol that you couldn't remember the details of the prior day or evening?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
73%	71%	75%	NEVER
23%	23%	22%	1-9
3%	5%	2%	10 OR MORE
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

28a. **[FOR GIRLS]** Do you have **more drinks** when you are out with just your girlfriends or when you're in a group that includes boys? **[N=229]**

FEMALE	
34%	GIRL FRIENDS
42%	INCLUDES BOYS
25%	DON'T KNOW/NR

28b. **[FOR BOYS]** Do you have **more drinks** when you are out with just your guy friends or when you're in a group that includes girls? **[N=265]**

MALE	
48%	GUY FRIENDS
27%	INCLUDES GIRLS
26%	DON'T KNOW/NR

Now I'm going to ask you some questions about drugs...

29. Is your school a drug-free school or is it not drug free, meaning some students keep drugs, use drugs or sell drugs on school grounds?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
44%	46%	43%	DRUG-FREE
53%	51%	54%	NOT DRUG-FREE
3%	3%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

30. **[IF NOT DRUG FREE]** Is the drug problem in your school getting better or getting worse? **[N=1,116]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
36%	37%	35%	GETTING BETTER
40%	38%	42%	GETTING WORSE
15%	16%	14%	STAYED THE SAME
9%	9%	9%	DON'T KNOW/NR

31a. **[SPLIT SAMPLE]** If you personally saw a student **USING** illegal drugs at school, would you report the student to school officials or not? **[N=1,002]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
51%	48%	53%	WOULD REPORT
45%	47%	42%	WOULD NOT REPORT
5%	4%	5%	DON'T KNOW/NR

31b. **[SPLIT SAMPLE]** If you personally saw a student **SELLING** illegal drugs at school, would you report the student to school officials or not? **[N=998]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
55%	54%	57%	WOULD REPORT
42%	43%	40%	WOULD NOT REPORT
3%	3%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

32. Do you think if a person your age is smoking cigarettes or drinking alcohol, he or she will be more likely to eventually use marijuana, or does smoking and drinking not make marijuana use more likely?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
73%	72%	75%	MORE LIKELY
21%	22%	19%	NOT MORE LIKELY
7%	6%	7%	DON'T KNOW/NR

33. Do you think that if a person your age is using marijuana, he or she will be more likely to eventually use other illegal drugs like acid, cocaine or heroin, or does using marijuana not make using other illegal drugs more likely?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
80%	77%	83%	MORE LIKELY
16%	19%	13%	NOT MORE LIKELY
4%	5%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

34. Which is easiest for someone your age to buy: cigarettes, beer or marijuana?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
47%	46%	49%	CIGARETTES
12%	13%	11%	BEER
27%	27%	26%	MARIJUANA
5%	5%	5%	THE SAME
9%	9%	9%	DON'T KNOW/NR

35. Thinking now about your own close circle of friends, how many of them currently use marijuana—none, less than half, half, more than half, most or all of them?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
67%	66%	68%	NONE
22%	22%	21%	LESS THAN HALF
5%	6%	5%	HALF
3%	3%	3%	MORE THAN HALF
3%	2%	3%	MOST OR ALL
1%	1%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

36a. **[ASK GIRLS]** Smoking marijuana by a boy my age is ...

FEMALE	
58%	STUPID
1%	COOL
—	SEXY
26%	DISGUSTING
14%	NO BIG DEAL
—	DON'T KNOW/NR

36b. **[ASK BOYS]** Smoking marijuana by a girl my age is...

MALE	
57%	STUPID
1%	COOL
—	SEXY
23%	DISGUSTING
18%	NO BIG DEAL
1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

37. If you wanted to buy marijuana right now, how long would it take you: 30 minutes or less, an hour or less, a few hours, within a day, within a week, longer than a week, or would you be unable to buy it?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
21%	23%	20%	30 MINUTES OR LESS
9%	9%	10%	AN HOUR OR LESS
4%	5%	4%	A FEW HOURS
10%	10%	10%	WITHIN A DAY
9%	10%	7%	WITHIN A WEEK
3%	4%	2%	LONGER THAN A WEEK
31%	29%	33%	WOULD BE UNABLE TO BUY
14%	12%	15%	DON'T KNOW/NR

38/39/40. Do you know a friend or classmate who has used illegal drugs like acid, cocaine or heroin? **[IF YES]** Is this person a teenager? **[IF YES]** A boy or a girl?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
15%	9%	20%	YES, TEENAGE GIRL
32%	35%	29%	YES, TEENAGE BOY
1%	—	1%	YES, NOT TEENAGER
52%	54%	50%	NO
1%	1%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

41. **[PRE-CODE OPEN END]** Besides marijuana, what is the most popular drug among students at your school?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
15%	15%	15%	ACID/LSD
11%	11%	11%	COCAINE
2%	1%	2%	HEROIN
2%	2%	3%	ECSTASY
1%	1%	1%	METH-AMPHETAMINES
2%	2%	2%	INHALANTS
12%	13%	10%	OTHER
16%	17%	15%	NONE
40%	38%	42%	DON'T KNOW/NR

42. How many discussions have you had with your parents about the risks of smoking? If you have had no serious discussions about smoking with your parents, just say so.

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
26%	25%	27%	0
6%	7%	5%	1
15%	15%	14%	2
10%	11%	9%	3
13%	14%	12%	4 OR 5
3%	3%	4%	6,7,8, OR 9
10%	9%	11%	10
13%	13%	13%	11-50
5%	4%	6%	DON'T KNOW/NR

43. How many discussions have you had with your parents about the risks of drinking? If you have had no serious discussions about drinking with your parents, just say so.

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
28%	27%	29%	0
7%	8%	6%	1
15%	16%	13%	2
10%	9%	10%	3
12%	14%	10%	4 OR 5
4%	4%	4%	6,7,8, OR 9
9%	9%	10%	10
11%	10%	13%	11-50
4%	4%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

Data Frequencies [Continued]
Survey of Teenagers, 12-17

44/45. Have you ever had a serious discussion with your parents about the risks of using illegal drugs? **[IF NO]** Was it with your mom, your dad or both parents? **[IF NO]** Would you like to have such a discussion?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
45%	50%	39%	YES, BOTH PARENTS
15%	12%	17%	YES, MOM
4%	4%	3%	YES, DAD
8%	7%	9%	NO, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SUCH A DISCUSSION
28%	26%	30%	NO, AND WOULD NOT WANT SUCH A DISCUSSION
1%	1%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

46. **[IF YES TO Q. 44]** How much did you learn about the risks of illegal drugs from your parents? **[N=1,254]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
57%	55%	58%	A LOT
26%	27%	25%	SOME
13%	14%	13%	ONLY A LITTLE
5%	5%	4%	NOTHING AT ALL
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

47. **[IF YES TO Q. 44]** Do you feel this discussion influenced your likelihood of using illegal drugs a great deal, somewhat, only a little or do you believe it had no impact at all? **[N=1,254]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
48%	42%	54%	A GREAT DEAL
23%	23%	22%	SOMEWHAT
11%	11%	10%	ONLY A LITTLE
17%	22%	13%	HAD NO IMPACT AT ALL
1%	2%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

48. In general, do you think it is easier to talk to your mother or your father about drugs?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
57%	49%	66%	MOTHER
26%	34%	19%	FATHER
17%	17%	16%	DON'T KNOW/NR

49. How concerned would your parents be if they found out you were using marijuana?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
94%	94%	95%	VERY CONCERNED
4%	5%	3%	SOMEWHAT CONCERNED
1%	1%	1%	A LITTLE CONCERNED
1%	—	1%	NOT CONCERNED AT ALL
1%	1%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

50. Would you say your parents have a pretty good idea of how many students at your school are smoking, drinking and using illegal drugs or would you say your parents are pretty clueless?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
48%	45%	51%	PARENTS HAVE PRETTY GOOD IDEA
49%	52%	45%	PARENTS ARE CLUELESS
4%	4%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF TEENAGERS, 12-17

51. What adults live with you at home? Any others? [MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
95%	95%	94%	MOTHER
3%	3%	3%	STEPMOTHER
78%	80%	75%	FATHER
5%	4%	5%	STEPFATHER
6%	7%	6%	GRANDPARENT
8%	7%	9%	OTHER ADULT RELATIVE
4%	4%	3%	OTHER ADULT

51A. Derived Variable: Family Structure in Which Teen Resides

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
74%	77%	72%	TWO-PARENT
20%	18%	22%	ONLY BIOLOGICAL MOTHER
3%	3%	3%	ONLY BIOLOGICAL FATHER
2%	2%	3%	NEITHER BIOLOGICAL PARENT

52. How often do you tell your parents where you're going to be after school or after work?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
63%	55%	71%	ALWAYS
24%	28%	19%	MOST OF THE TIME
7%	9%	5%	SOMETIMES
4%	5%	3%	HARDLY EVER
2%	3%	2%	NEVER
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

53. How often do you tell your parents where you're ***really*** going on the weekends?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
62%	59%	65%	ALWAYS
24%	26%	22%	MOST OF THE TIME
9%	10%	8%	SOMETIMES
3%	3%	2%	HARDLY EVER
2%	3%	2%	NEVER
1%	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

54. When you do something well, how often does a parent give you praise or encouragement for what you do?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
48%	43%	53%	ALWAYS
32%	37%	28%	MOST OF THE TIME
13%	16%	11%	SOMETIMES
4%	3%	5%	HARDLY EVER
2%	2%	2%	NEVER
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

55. Which parent is tougher and more demanding of you in terms of grades, homework and your personal behavior—your mother or your father?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
45%	43%	47%	MOTHER
39%	40%	39%	FATHER
14%	16%	13%	THE SAME
2%	1%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

56. Roughly how many days a week do your parents personally help with or check your homework for 10 minutes or more?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
45%	42%	48%	NONE
54%	57%	51%	1-7
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

57. When you have important decisions to make, whose opinions do you rely on most?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
25%	29%	21%	PARENTS MOST, BOTH EQUALLY
27%	21%	32%	PARENTS MOST, MOM
9%	11%	6%	PARENTS MOST, DAD
13%	12%	14%	PARENTS AND FRIENDS EQUALLY
17%	16%	18%	FRIENDS MOST
4%	3%	6%	SOME OTHER ADULTS
1%	2%	1%	TEACHERS
4%	6%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

58. Did both of your parents graduate from college, one of your parents graduate from college, or neither of them graduate from college?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
39%	41%	38%	BOTH PARENTS GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE
29%	28%	29%	ONLY ONE PARENT GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE
29%	28%	29%	NEITHER PARENT GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE
3%	3%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

59. Would you describe your relationship with your mother as excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
39%	38%	39%	EXCELLENT
34%	35%	33%	VERY GOOD
18%	19%	16%	GOOD
8%	7%	8%	FAIR
2%	1%	3%	POOR
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

60. Would you describe your relationship with your father as excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
29%	33%	26%	EXCELLENT
29%	31%	27%	VERY GOOD
23%	21%	25%	GOOD
10%	9%	12%	FAIR
7%	5%	8%	POOR
2%	1%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

61. Are you... in your family

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
34%	33%	35%	YOUNGEST CHILD
24%	24%	24%	MIDDLE CHILD
34%	35%	32%	OLDEST CHILD
9%	8%	9%	ONLY CHILD
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

62. **[SKIP IF ONLY CHILD]** How many brothers and sisters do you have? **[N=1,826]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
36%	36%	36%	1
32%	34%	31%	2
17%	16%	18%	3
7%	9%	6%	4
7%	6%	9%	5 OR MORE

63. How important is religion in your personal life?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
49%	44%	54%	VERY IMPORTANT
28%	29%	26%	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT
12%	15%	10%	ONLY A LITTLE IMPORTANT
11%	12%	9%	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT
1%	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

64. In a typical month, how often do you attend church or religious services?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
19%	20%	18%	NONE
9%	10%	8%	1
11%	13%	9%	2
9%	8%	9%	3
34%	31%	37%	4
19%	19%	19%	5 OR MORE

65. In a typical week, how many times do you and your parents have dinner together as a family?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
7%	6%	9%	NEVER
9%	8%	10%	1
9%	9%	9%	2
11%	11%	12%	3
11%	11%	11%	4
12%	12%	12%	5
7%	9%	5%	6
32%	32%	32%	7
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

66. What is your main racial or ethnic heritage: Hispanic or Latino-American (whether black or white), white but not Hispanic, African-American or black but not Hispanic, Asian-American or Native American.

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
10%	9%	11%	HISPANIC OR LATINO-AMERICAN
64%	66%	63%	WHITE BUT NOT HISPANIC
17%	17%	17%	AFRICAN-AMERICAN BUT NOT HISPANIC
2%	2%	3%	ASIAN-AMERICAN
2%	2%	2%	NATIVE-AMERICAN
4%	4%	4%	OTHER
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

67. What kind of grades do you get in school? Just stop me when I read the right category...

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
1%	2%	1%	MOSTLY Ds AND Fs
6%	9%	4%	MOSTLY Cs AND Ds
26%	31%	22%	MOSTLY Bs AND Cs
48%	43%	52%	MOSTLY As AND Bs
18%	16%	20%	MOSTLY As
—	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

68. Has anyone ever offered to sell or share marijuana with you? Was that person a boy or a girl?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
21%	28%	14%	YES, BOY
5%	2%	7%	YES, GIRL
14%	13%	15%	YES, BOTH
60%	56%	63%	NO
—	1%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF TEENAGERS, 12-17

69. Have you ever smoked marijuana?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
15%	18%	12%	YES
85%	82%	87%	NEVER TRIED IT
—	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

70. **[IF YES TO Q.69]** What is the main reason that you smoked marijuana? **[N=308]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
38%	38%	37%	TO FIT IN/BE ONE OF THE CROWD
6%	8%	2%	RELAX
18%	17%	19%	IT'S FUN
8%	10%	7%	MAKES ME FEEL BETTER/HAPPIER
14%	13%	16%	PUSH THE ENVELOPE/RISKY/ BREAK RULES
1%	1%	2%	IMPRESS A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITE SEX
15%	13%	18%	DON'T KNOW/NR

71a. **[IF YES TO Q.69]** Who has had the most influence over your decision to use drugs? **[N=308]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
48%	45%	53%	FRIENDS
36%	41%	30%	YOURSELF
4%	3%	5%	SIBLING
2%	1%	4%	PARENTS, MOM
1%	1%	2%	PARENTS, DAD
0%	0%	0%	SOME OTHER ADULT
2%	2%	2%	RELATIVE
2%	2%	2%	OTHER
0%	0%	0%	TEACHER OR OTHER SHOOL OFFICIAL
4%	4%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

71b. **[IF NO TO Q.69]** Who has had the most influence over your decision to **not** use drugs? **[N=1,692]**

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
13%	12%	14%	FRIENDS
28%	27%	29%	YOURSELF
4%	3%	4%	SIBLING
29%	26%	31%	PARENTS, MOM
13%	17%	9%	PARENTS, DAD
3%	3%	3%	RELATIVE
1%	1%	1%	SOME OTHER ADULT
4%	4%	5%	OTHER
4%	5%	3%	TEACHER OR OTHER SHOOL OFFICIAL
2%	2%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

72. How likely is it that you will try drugs in the future?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
4%	5%	4%	VERY LIKELY
7%	9%	6%	SOMEWHAT LIKELY
28%	28%	27%	NOT VERY LIKELY
60%	58%	63%	NEVER HAPPEN
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

That's the last of my questions. Thank you very much for your answers and for your time. Good-bye.

Data Frequencies
Survey of Parents w/ Teens, 12-17

Hello, my name is (_____) and I'm calling from the national public opinion research company. We are conducting a very important nationwide survey on the future of youth for a research center at a major university. We are looking for teenagers between 12 and 17 years old and their parents to participate.

Is there a youth between the ages of 12 and 17 living at your home?

[IF YES] MAY I SPEAK TO THAT PERSON? [CONTINUE WITH YOUTH SURVEY]
[IF NOT AVAILABLE] When would be a good time to call back?

[RECORD CALLBACK TIME]

[IF NO] Thank and terminate.

[IF YOUTH NOT AVAILABLE] Is a parent of the teenager available to speak with me?

1. YES [CONTINUE WITH ADULT VERSION]
2. NO When would be a good time to call back?

[PARENTS' INTRO]

[REPEAT AS NECESSARY] Hello, my name is (_____) and I'm calling from the national public opinion research company. We are talking with parents of teenagers as part of an important nationwide survey on the future of your youth.

[ALL] This is not a sales call; we won't ask you to buy or do anything. This interview will take about 15 minutes, and your answers are completely confidential. And there are no right or wrong answers to these questions, we really just want to learn your opinions and experiences. At any point during this survey you can refuse to answer a question or end the survey.

(DO NOT PAUSE)

How many children 12 - 17 do you have? [RECORD REPONSE]

[IF 1] What is the age of your teenager? [RECORD RESPONSE]

[IF 1] Is your teenager a boy or a girl?

1 BOY
2 GIRL

[IF 3] What is the age of your middle teenager? [RECORD RESPONSE]

Is this teenager a boy or a girl?

1 BOY
2 GIRL

[IF 2 or 4+] [SPLIT SAMPLE VERSION A] What is the age of your oldest teenager? Is your oldest teenager a boy or a girl?

[IF 2 or 4+] [SPLIT SAMPLE VERSION B] What is the age of your youngest teenager? Is your youngest teenager a boy or a girl?

[IF 2 or 4+] For the purposes of the rest of my questions, please have this teenager, your [youngest/oldest/middle] teenage [boy/girl], in mind.

[THEREAFTER, WE SHOULD REFER TO SPECIFIC TEENAGER]

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF PARENTS W/TEENS, 12-17

1. Thinking of teenagers like your own, what is the most important problem facing people their age — that is, the thing which concerns you the most?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
8%	8%	8%	CRIME AND VIOLENCE IN SCHOOL
29%	25%	33%	SOCIAL PRESSURES (POPULARITY AND "FITTING IN")
21%	20%	23%	DRUGS
5%	6%	4%	DOING WELL IN SCHOOL
5%	5%	5%	DECLINING MORAL STANDARDS /IMMORALITY
4%	4%	5%	OTHER CRIME AND VIOLENCE
3%	3%	4%	SEXUAL ISSUES
2%	2%	1%	GETTING ALONG WITH PARENTS/ OTHER PROBLEMS AT HOME
2%	3%	1%	THE GENERAL LACK OF QUALITY EDUCATION
1%	2%	1%	JOBS/ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
1%	1%	1%	GETTING INTO COLLEGE
1%	2%	1%	LACK OF RELIGION/SPIRITU ALITY
—	—	0%	LACK OF MONEY
—	—	0%	OTHER POVERTY RESPONSES
—	—	0%	TELEVISION/MOVI ES/POP CULTURE
12%	14%	10%	OTHER
6%	7%	5%	DON'T KNOW/NR

2. [OPEN END] And what is the biggest problem in parenting a [GENDER OF TEEN] teen today?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
2%	1%	2%	CRIME AND VIOLENCE IN SCHOOL
—	—	—	OTHER CRIME AND VIOLENCE
12%	11%	12%	SOCIAL PRESSURES (POPULARITY AND "FITTING-IN")
—	—	—	JOBS/ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
3%	2%	3%	GETTING ALONG WITH PARENTS/OTHER PROBLEMS AT HOME
1%	1%	—	LACK OF MONEY
5%	4%	6%	DRUGS
4%	3%	5%	SEXUAL ISSUES
3%	3%	3%	DOING WELL IN SCHOOL
2%	2%	1%	GETTING INTO COLLEGE
5%	3%	7%	DECLINING MORAL STANDARDS /IMMORALITY
2%	1%	3%	TELEVISION/MOV IES/POP CULTURE
1%	1%	—	LACK OF RELIGION/SPIRIT UALITY
10%	13%	9%	OTHER
6%	7%	5%	DON'T KNOW/NR

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF PARENTS W/ TEENS, 12-17

3. Which is easiest for a teenager under 18 to buy: cigarettes, beer, or marijuana?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
41%	46%	37%	CIGARETTES
4%	3%	5%	BEER
35%	34%	36%	MARIJUANA
10%	9%	11%	THE SAME
10%	9%	11%	DON'T KNOW/NR

4. Suppose you found out your teenager was drinking alcohol regularly. How disturbed would you be, if at all?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
64%	55%	71%	EXTREMELY DISTURBED
30%	35%	25%	VERY DISTURBED
5%	7%	3%	SOMEWHAT DISTURBED
1%	1%	—	ONLY A LITTLE DISTURBED
—	1%	—	NOT DISTURBED AT ALL
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

5. Suppose you found out your teenager smoked cigarettes regularly. How disturbed would you be, if at all?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
55%	49%	60%	EXTREMELY DISTURBED
34%	37%	30%	VERY DISTURBED
8%	9%	8%	SOMEWHAT DISTURBED
2%	2%	1%	ONLY A LITTLE DISTURBED
1%	2%	1%	NOT DISTURBED AT ALL
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

6. Suppose you found out your teenager smoked marijuana. How disturbed would you be, if at all?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
76%	70%	81%	EXTREMELY DISTURBED
20%	24%	17%	VERY DISTURBED
3%	4%	2%	SOMEWHAT DISTURBED
—	—	0	ONLY A LITTLE DISTURBED
1%	1%	—	NOT DISTURBED AT ALL
1%	1%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

7. As a parent, do you think you would be more concerned to learn that your teenager was smoking cigarettes, drinking alcohol, or using marijuana?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
5%	6%	3%	SMOKING CIGARETTES
15%	14%	15%	DRINKING ALCOHOL
52%	53%	52%	USING MARIJUANA
—	—	1%	DEPENDS ON QUANTITY
2%	3%	1%	EQUALLY CONCERNED
27%	25%	29%	DON'T KNOW/NR

8. Who is most responsible for a teen starting to use illegal drugs:

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
30%	27%	33%	THE TEEN HIM SELF/HERSELF
17%	17%	17%	THE CHILD'S PARENTS
31%	34%	29%	FRIENDS OF THE CHILD
18%	20%	17%	OUR CULTURE OR SOCIETY
4%	3%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF PARENTS W/ TEENS, 12-17

9. Has your teen ever gotten into trouble with [HIS/HER] school or the law for an incident involving smoking, drinking or drugs?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
6%	7%	5%	YES
94%	93%	95%	NO

10. Some parents tell us that once a child becomes a teenager, parents have very little influence over their decisions on things like whether they will smoke, drink, or try illegal drugs. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly with this opinion?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
8%	10%	8%	STRONGLY AGREE
17%	16%	17%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
21%	21%	21%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
52%	52%	53%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
2%	1%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

11. How many discussions have you had with your teenager about the risks of smoking? If you have had no serious discussions about smoking with your teen, just say so.

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
9%	14%	5%	NONE
2%	2%	2%	1
4%	4%	3%	2
5%	5%	5%	3
11%	13%	9%	4 OR 5
6%	4%	7%	6,7,8, OR 9
16%	17%	16%	10
40%	33%	45%	11-50
9%	9%	9%	DON'T KNOW/NR

12. How many discussions have you had with your teenager about the risks of drinking? If you have had no serious discussions about drinking with your teen, just say so.

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
9%	13%	5%	NONE
2%	1%	2%	1
5%	6%	5%	2
5%	7%	3%	3
11%	13%	10%	4 OR 5
6%	5%	7%	6,7,8, OR 9
16%	16%	16%	10
38%	30%	45%	11-50
8%	8%	8%	DON'T KNOW/NR

13. How many discussions have you had with your teenager about the risks of using illegal drugs? If you have had no serious discussions about illegal drugs with your teen, just say so.

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
7%	11%	4%	NONE
2%	2%	2%	1
5%	5%	5%	2
5%	7%	3%	3
11%	11%	10%	4 OR 5
6%	5%	7%	6,7,8, OR 9
15%	14%	15%	10
42%	37%	46%	11-50
8%	8%	9%	DON'T KNOW/NR

14. **[IF YES TO Q.13]** Do you feel this discussion influenced your teen's likelihood of using illegal drugs a great deal, somewhat, only a little or do you believe it had no impact at all? **[N=847]**

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
54%	51%	57%	A GREAT DEAL
34%	36%	32%	SOMEWHAT
6%	6%	5%	ONLY A LITTLE
5%	5%	5%	NO IMPACT AT ALL
2%	2%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF PARENTS W/ TEENS, 12-17

15. Does your teenager's school teach its students about the dangers of illegal drugs?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
90%	88%	91%	YES
5%	3%	6%	NO
6%	8%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

16. **[IF YES]** Do you agree or disagree that because your teenager's school already teaches its students about the dangers of illegal drugs, it is less important for you as a parent to also discuss the dangers of illegal drugs with your teenager? **[N=896]**

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
6%	6%	5%	AGREE
94%	93%	95%	DISAGREE
1%	1%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

17. In general, do you think it is easier to talk to teenage girls or boys about the dangers of illegal drugs?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
23%	17%	29%	GIRLS
16%	20%	13%	BOYS
45%	47%	44%	NO DIFFERENCE
15%	16%	15%	DON'T KNOW/NR

18. To the best of your knowledge, is your teen's school a "drug free" school, or is it not "drug free," meaning some students keep drugs, use drugs, or sell drugs on school grounds? [PUSH TO AVOID DON'T KNOW RESPONSE: "Well, what is your guess?"]

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
35%	32%	37%	DRUG-FREE
61%	61%	61%	NOT DRUG-FREE
5%	7%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

19. To the best of your knowledge, is your teen's school a safe place or not a safe place?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
86%	88%	84%	SCHOOL IS SAFE
10%	7%	13%	SCHOOL IS NOT SAFE
4%	5%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

20. Overall, when you think of other parents you know with teenage children, would you say that most of them are doing the best job they can of being parents, or are most of them not doing their best to be good parents?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
71%	70%	72%	DOING BEST JOB THEY CAN
24%	24%	25%	NOT DOING THEIR BEST
5%	6%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

21. Some parents of teenagers believe that if they let their teen and their teen's friends drink in their home, it will prevent them from doing unsafe things like driving under the influence. Other parents believe that letting teens drink in their home sends the wrong message about alcohol. Which of these two views comes closer to your own?

TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
11%	13%	10%	WILL PREVENT DUI
82%	81%	83%	SENDS WRONG MESSAGE
7%	7%	7%	DON'T KNOW/NR

22. Have you ever allowed your teen and [his/her] friends to drink in your home?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
5%	6%	3%	YES
95%	93%	97%	NO
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

23. When you think of other parents you know with teenage children, would you say that most are trying hard to guide the morals and values of their teenage children, or have most of them stopped trying to guide the morals and values of their teenage children?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
78%	77%	79%	GUIDING TEEN'S MORALS & VALUES
17%	16%	17%	STOPPED GUIDING TEEN'S MORALS & VALUES
5%	7%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

24. If your teenager wanted to buy marijuana right now, how long would it take him or her: 30 minutes or less, an hour or less, a few hours, within a day, within a week, longer than a week, or would they be unable to buy it?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
23%	19%	26%	30 MINUTES OR LESS
11%	11%	11%	AN HOUR OR LESS
8%	10%	7%	A FEW HOURS
17%	18%	16%	WITHIN A DAY
12%	11%	12%	WITHIN A WEEK
3%	3%	3%	LONGER THAN A WEEK
9%	8%	10%	WOULD BE UNABLE TO BUY
18%	20%	16%	DON'T KNOW/NR

25. In a typical week, how many times do you have dinner together as a family?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
2%	2%	2%	NEVER
3%	3%	2%	1
7%	8%	6%	2
12%	11%	12%	3
16%	20%	13%	4
19%	19%	20%	5
11%	10%	12%	6
31%	28%	33%	7
—	—	0	DON'T KNOW/NR

26. In a typical week, will you drink wine, beer, or another alcoholic beverage? **[IF YES]** In a typical day, will he have one, two, or more than two drinks? **[IF NO]** Does she ever drink?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
32%	25%	38%	NEVER DRINKS
36%	32%	39%	NO DRINKS TYPICAL WEEK
15%	17%	15%	WEEKLY DRINKER (<1/DAY)
10%	15%	7%	1 PER DAY
4%	7%	1%	2 PER DAY
2%	4%	1%	3+ PER DAY

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF PARENTS W/ TEENS, 12-17

27. Would you describe your relationship with your teen as excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
40%	35%	44%	EXCELLENT
41%	41%	41%	VERY GOOD
15%	18%	12%	GOOD
3%	5%	2%	FAIR
1%	1%	—	POOR
—	0	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

How often would it be true for you to make each of the following statements about your teen? Would you say it is always true, often true, sometimes true, or never true?

28. You don't feel that you know your teen. Is this always true, often true, sometimes true, or never true?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
4%	4%	3%	ALWAYS TRUE
8%	7%	9%	OFTEN TRUE
50%	52%	49%	SOMETIMES TRUE
38%	36%	39%	NEVER TRUE
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

29. You feel shut-out by your teen. Is this always true, often true, sometimes true, or never true?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
1%	—	1%	ALWAYS TRUE
5%	8%	3%	OFTEN TRUE
53%	50%	55%	SOMETIMES TRUE
41%	41%	41%	NEVER TRUE
1%	1%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

30. Would you say you have a pretty good idea of how many students at your teen's school are smoking, drinking and using illegal drugs or would you say that you are pretty clueless.

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
45%	44%	47%	HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA
51%	51%	51%	ARE CLUELESS
4%	5%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

31. In general, do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove of the friends your teenager hangs out with?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
60%	55%	64%	STRONGLY APPROVE
32%	37%	28%	SOMEWHAT APPROVE
6%	7%	6%	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE
1%	2%	1%	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE
1%	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

32. Thinking about your teen's own close circle of friends, as far as you know, how many of them currently use marijuana—none, less than half, half, more than half, most or all of them?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
76%	74%	78%	NONE
16%	18%	13%	LESS THAN HALF
3%	2%	3%	HALF
1%	1%	1%	MORE THAN HALF
1%	1%	1%	MOST OR ALL OF THEM
4%	4%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

33. So far as you know, does your teenager have a friend or classmate who has used illegal drugs like acid, cocaine, or heroin? Is this person a teenager?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
17%	14%	19%	YES, TEENAGER
1%	1%	1%	YES, NOT TEENAGER
70%	69%	70%	NO
13%	15%	11%	DON'T KNOW/NR

34. If you had to guess, how likely is it that your teenager HAS ALREADY TRIED an illegal drug of some kind?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
9%	9%	9%	VERY LIKELY
6%	6%	5%	SOMEWHAT LIKELY
9%	8%	9%	SOMEWHAT UNLIKELY
76%	75%	76%	VERY UNLIKELY
1%	2%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

The next few questions are about your teen's best friend...

35. Is your teen's best friend a male or a female?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
51%	50%	51%	MALE
47%	48%	47%	FEMALE
2%	2%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

36. Have you ever met this friend in person?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
98%	98%	97%	YES
2%	2%	2%	NO
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

37. Have you ever met this friend's parents or talked with them on the phone?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
94%	92%	95%	YES
6%	8%	5%	NO
—	—	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

38. Is this friend a very good, a fairly good, a not so good or a bad influence on your teen?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
57%	53%	60%	VERY GOOD INFLUENCE
35%	38%	33%	FAIRLY GOOD
3%	3%	3%	NOT A GOOD INFLUENCE
2%	2%	2%	BAD INFLUENCE
1%	2%	1%	NO INFLUENCE
2%	2%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

39. Now think of all your teen's friends. How many of their parents have you ***personally*** talked to in the last month?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
7%	8%	7%	NONE
7%	7%	7%	1
18%	18%	17%	2
17%	17%	16%	3
51%	49%	52%	4 OR MORE
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

40. How often does your teen tell you where [he/she] is going to be after school or after work?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
78%	74%	81%	ALWAYS
18%	21%	15%	MOST OF THE TIME
2%	3%	1%	SOMETIMES
1%	1%	1%	HARDLY EVER
1%	1%	1%	NEVER
—	0	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

Data Frequencies [continued]
Survey of Parents w/ Teens, 12-17

41. How often does your teen tell you where [he's/she's] going to be on the weekend?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
82%	79%	85%	ALWAYS
14%	17%	11%	MOST OF THE TIME
2%	2%	2%	SOMETIMES
1%	1%	1%	HARDLY EVER
1%	1%	1%	NEVER
—	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

42. When your teen has a serious problem, how often does [he/she] discuss it with you?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
33%	29%	37%	ALWAYS
43%	40%	47%	MOST OF THE TIME
17%	22%	13%	SOMETIMES
3%	6%	1%	HARDLY EVER
1%	1%	2%	NEVER
2%	2%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

43. Roughly, how many days a week do you **personally** help with or check your child's homework for ten minutes or more?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
27%	24%	30%	NONE
72%	74%	70%	1-7
2%	2%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

Now just a few questions for statistical purposes ...

44. What is your employment situation: are you ...

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
66%	85%	50%	EMPLOYED FULL-TIME OUTSIDE HOME
14%	3%	23%	EMPLOYED PART-TIME OUTSIDE HOME
13%	5%	20%	WORK AT HOME, TAKING CARE OF FAMILY
3%	4%	2%	RETIRED
1%	—	1%	STUDENT
2%	2%	3%	UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING FOR WORK
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

45. And what is your spouse's employment situation?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
73%	56%	91%	EMPLOYED FULL-TIME OUTSIDE HOME
10%	19%	1%	EMPLOYED PART-TIME OUTSIDE HOME
12%	21%	3%	WORK AT HOME, TAKING CARE OF FAMILY
2%	1%	3%	RETIRED
1%	1%	0	STUDENT
1%	1%	1%	UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING FOR WORK
2%	1%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

DATA FREQUENCIES [CONTINUED]
SURVEY OF PARENTS W/ TEENS, 12-17

46. How important is religion in your family life: very important, fairly important, not too important, not important at all?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
60%	55%	64%	VERY IMPORTANT
27%	28%	25%	FAIRLY IMPORTANT
10%	13%	7%	NOT TOO IMPORTANT
4%	4%	3%	NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL
—	—	0%	DON'T KNOW/NR

47. In a typical month, how often do you attend church or religious services?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
22%	22%	22%	NONE
9%	10%	8%	1
11%	11%	11%	2
9%	10%	8%	3
30%	31%	29%	4
19%	16%	21%	5 OR MORE
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

48. Does your teenager usually go to church or religious services with you?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
77%	76%	77%	YES
23%	23%	22%	NO
1%	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

49. Which of the following best describes your religious preference:

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
25%	22%	27%	BORN-AGAIN, EVANGELICAL, FUNDAMENTALIST CHRISTIAN
20%	21%	19%	TRADITIONAL PROTESTANT
27%	30%	25%	CATHOLIC
2%	3%	2%	JEWISH
21%	20%	23%	OTHER
3%	4%	3%	NONE
2%	2%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

50. In what year were you born, please? [collapsed age categories]

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
21%	13%	28%	18-39
59%	60%	58%	40-49
20%	26%	14%	50+
1%	1%	1%	NO RESPONSE

51. What is the highest level of education you completed?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
5%	4%	5%	SOME HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS
24%	19%	27%	COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL
28%	26%	29%	VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OR SOME COLLEGE
30%	33%	27%	COLLEGE GRADUATE
14%	17%	12%	POST GRADUATE
—	0%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

Data Frequencies [continued]
Survey of Parents w/Teens, 12-17

52. What do you consider to be your main racial or ethnic heritage: Hispanic or Latino-American, White but not Hispanic, African-American or black and not Hispanic, Asian-American, Native American, or Other?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
4%	3%	5%	HISPANIC OR LATINO-AMERICAN
81%	82%	80%	WHITE BUT NOT HISPANIC
8%	7%	10%	AFRICAN-AMERICAN BUT NOT HISPANIC
2%	2%	2%	ASIAN-AMERICAN
1%	2%	1%	NATIVE AMERICAN
3%	3%	2%	OTHER
1%	2%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

53. I am going to read to you several income ranges. Please indicate to me your family's annual income by telling me when I have read the correct category ...

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
3%	1%	5%	UNDER $15,000
5%	2%	7%	$15,000 BUT LESS THAN $25,000
10%	7%	13%	$25,000 BUT LESS THAN $35,000
12%	12%	12%	$35,000 BUT LESS THAN $45,000
14%	16%	12%	$45,000 BUT LESS THAN $55,000
19%	22%	16%	$55,000 BUT LESS THAN $75,000
25%	28%	22%	$75,000 OR MORE
13%	12%	14%	REFUSED

54. When you were growing up in the 60's and 70's, it was pretty common for college and high school students to try marijuana and other drugs. When you were that age, did you try marijuana even once? [IF YES] Was there a time when you used marijuana fairly regularly?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
18%	21%	16%	YES, REGULARLY
38%	41%	35%	YES, NOT REGULARLY
42%	35%	48%	NEVER TRIED IT
2%	3%	2%	DON'T KNOW/NR

55. **[IF YES]** If you and your child were talking about drugs and your child asked, would you tell them you had tried drugs? **[N=558]**

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
82%	84%	80%	YES
13%	10%	16%	NO
5%	6%	4%	DON'T KNOW/NR

56. If you had to guess, how likely is it that your teenager will ever try an illegal drug at some point in the future? Is it ...

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
16%	20%	13%	VERY LIKELY
29%	29%	30%	SOMEWHAT LIKELY
35%	33%	36%	NOT VERY LIKELY
16%	13%	18%	NEVER HAPPEN
4%	6%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NR

Data Frequencies [continued]
Survey of Parents w/ Teens, 12-17

57. Are you single or married? [IF SINGLE:] Have you ever been married? [IF MARRIED] Were you ever previously married to someone else?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
3%	2%	4%	SINGLE, NEVER BEEN MARRIED
10%	6%	13%	SINGLE, SEPARATED, DIVORCED
2%	1%	2%	SINGLE, WIDOWED
75%	80%	71%	MARRIED
10%	11%	8%	MARRIED, PREVIOUSLY MARRIED/DIVORCED
1%	—	1%	MARRIED/PREVIOUSLY MARRIED/WIDOWED
—	0%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

58. Is the teenager we have been talking about your own child, or a stepchild?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
96%	94%	97%	OWN CHILD
4%	5%	2%	STEP CHILD
1%	—	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

59. How many total children do you have?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
11%	10%	11%	1
38%	40%	37%	2
30%	30%	30%	3
12%	10%	14%	4
9%	10%	8%	5 OR MORE

60. Does your teenager live with both natural parents, with one natural parent and one step parent, with just their mother, with just their father, or do they live with someone other than their parents?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
76%	82%	70%	TWO PARENT HOME, NO STEP
8%	7%	8%	TWO PARENT HOME, STEP PARENT
11%	3%	18%	ONE PARENT, MOTHER
4%	7%	1%	ONE PARENT, FATHER
1%	—	2%	OTHER THAN A PARENT
1%	1%	—	DON'T KNOW/NR

61. Do you currently smoke, meaning one or more cigarettes a day? [IF YES] Roughly how many cigarettes or packs a day do you smoke? [IF NO] Have you ever smoked?

TOTAL	FATHER	MOTHER	
6%	8%	4%	LESS THAN ONE CIGARETTE PER DAY
5%	5%	5%	1- 5 CIGARETTES PER DAY
5%	5%	5%	1/2 PACK PER DAY
8%	9%	7%	1 PACK PER DAY
2%	3%	1%	1 1/2 PACKS PER DAY
2%	4%	1%	2 OR MORE PACKS PER DAY
25%	25%	26%	NOT CURRENT SMOKER, BUT SMOKED IN PAST
47%	41%	52%	NOT CURRENT SMOKER, NEVER SMOKED
1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NR

62A. Gender of Parent [BY OBSERVATION]

46%	MALE
55%	FEMALE

62B. Gender of Parent + Gender of Teen Referred to by Parent Respondent

26%	FATHER, MALE TEEN
21%	FATHER, FEMALE TEEN
28%	MOTHER, MALE TEEN
26%	MOTHER, FEMALE TEEN

That's the last of my questions. Thank you very much for your answers and for your time. Good bye.